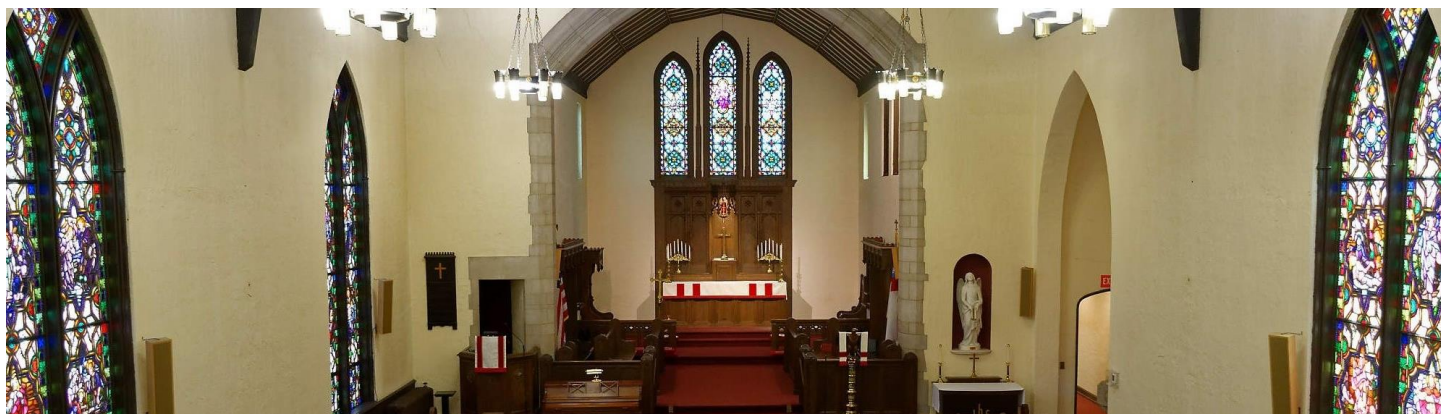




Trinity Tidings

September 2025

Bishop Search and Transition Committees Formed

The Standing Committee has completed the process of forming the Bishop Search and Transition Committees. Abiding by the spirit of our diocesan canons, we sought to create committees that were geographically comprehensive and balanced, with one clergy and one lay representative from each deanery. We strove to ensure that there was diverse experience from congregations—both small and large and urban and rural as well as guaranteeing that there was broad inclusion of people with diverse background and identities.

This commitment to representation required careful discernment. We received 26 applications for the Search Committee and 15 for the Transition Committee. However, interest was not evenly distributed across the diocese. For instance, in the Search Committee, some areas had multiple candidates for just two positions—such as six applicants from Central Erie and five from Eastern Erie—while other deaneries, like Chautauqua, had only a single applicant. The Standing Committee chose to preserve those openings.

Through prayerful consideration, we worked to ensure that every region of our diocese has a voice in this important work, while also honoring the gifts and experiences of those who offered themselves for service. Over 50% of the congregations of Western New York are represented (26 of the 51 freestanding congregations). These committees will play a vital role in discerning our next Bishop Diocesan and guiding the diocese through this time of transition.

For a complete committee listing, including home congregations, go to the [**BISHOP SEARCH WEBSITE PAGE**](#)



Autumn Harvest Potluck Luncheon

The Parish Family and Guests are invited to attend our potluck luncheon on Sunday, September 21, following the 10:30 a.m. service.

A sign-up form is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall for persons to R.S.V.P, list the side-dish items you will bring, and the number of guests who will attend. See you there!

Important dates in September:

Sunday, Sept. 7:

10:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer, with hymns.
No 8 o'clock service.

Sundays in September, starting Sept. 14:

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. I.
10:30 a.m. – Choral Eucharist, Rt. II.

TECW Meeting: Saturday, Sept. 6, 9:30 a.m.

Vestry Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 16, 5:30 p.m.

Autumn Harvest Luncheon: Sunday, Sept. 21.

+ + +

Episcopal News Service

Hawai'i congregation still recovering, healing two years after wildfires devastated Maui

www.episcopalnewsservice.org

Posted: August 19, 2025

By ENS Staff

Aug. 8 marked [two years](#) since a series of wildfires broke out throughout the Hawaiian Islands, killing more than 100 people and destroying more than 2,200 buildings, including [Holy Innocents Episcopal Church in Lahaina, Maui](#).

During the one-year anniversary in 2024, “there was still a heavy feeling, a sorrowful feeling,” Katy Shroder, worship leader of Holy Innocents, [told](#) the Hawaiian Church Chronicle, the Diocese of Hawai'i's newsletter. “This year, it's definitely a more hopeful feeling. People are talking more about how Lahaina has changed instead of still saying how Lahaina used to be.”

As Hurricane Dora, a Category 4 cyclone, passed near Hawai'i without making landfall, strong winds brushed through dry vegetation, [impelling](#) the Aug. 8-16, 2023, wildfires. The fires forced thousands of people to evacuate the island. [One of the victims](#) who died in the wildfires was a parishioner of Holy Innocents. Two parishioners whose homes burned down are in the process of obtaining permits and contractors to rebuild their homes, according to the Hawaiian Church Chronicle.

As of Aug. 13, 54 residential homes in Lahaina have been rebuilt, and 280 more homes are under construction, according to Maui County's [Maui Recovers website](#).

The worst of the fires had caused widespread damage to Maui's western community of Lahaina – the capital of the Kingdom of Hawai'i and later a popular tourist destination – where Holy Innocents had stood since 1927. The church, which had 30 active parishioners and had attracted many tourists before it was leveled, [resumed](#) worship services at the Honolulu United Methodist Church in nearby Napili in December 2023.

Holy Innocents – now classified as a preaching station under the umbrella of [Trinity By-the-Sea Episcopal Church in Kihei](#) and led by Shroder, Leanna Roberts and supply clergy – still holds worship services every Sunday at 8 a.m. at Honolulu. A concrete slab remains where the church once stood.

Members of Holy Innocents and the Honolulu-based [Diocese of Hawai'i](#) participated in a series of special remembrance events on Aug. 8 in Maui, including a [paddle-out ceremony](#) at Hanaka'o'o “Canoe Beach” Park. In Hawaiian culture, a paddle-out ceremony is a [tradition](#) in which a deceased person's loved ones paddle in the ocean to a designated spot, where they form a circle and toss leis, or flower wreaths, while sharing memories and kind words as they say their final goodbyes.

During this year's paddle-out, a helicopter dropped flowers onto the water and doves were released from the beach.

“Folks were just trying to be together, trying to make sense of this grief they all carry and how to move through it,” Kalani Holokai, the Diocese of Hawai'i's community relations coordinator for Maui, told the [Hawaiian Church Chronicle](#).

Gatherings and tributes also [took place](#) at the Maui County building in Wailuku and at the Lahaina Civic Center. Several of Hawai'i's local, state and federal lawmakers were in attendance, according to the Hawaiian Church Chronicle.

Over the last two years, the Diocese of Hawai'i has been [raising money](#) to support relief efforts and [A Cup of Cold Water](#), the diocese's Maui-based community outreach program operated by the island's four churches. A Cup of Cold Water's volunteers distribute food and pet food, bottled water, toiletries, clothing and other necessities from a van to unhoused people throughout Maui.

Monetary donations sent to the Bishop's Pastoral Fund-Maui address support recovery needs throughout the Maui community. Donations sent to Ministry of Holy Innocents, Lahaina, support members of the congregation's immediate and pastoral needs. The diocese isn't collecting money to rebuild Holy Innocents.

After receiving in \$41,850 in funding from the Rotary D5000 Foundation, members of the Rotary Club of Lahaina Sunset – of which Shroder serves as president – and other chapters throughout Hawai'i recently cleaned and restored the historic Hale Aloha Cemetery of Holy Innocents.

“Last year, the gravesites were completely shrouded in plant overgrowth. The columbarium was barely visible from the road, and you would have never known there was a cemetery there,” Sybil Nishioka, the Diocese of Hawai'i's communications specialist, wrote in the Hawaiian Church Chronicle. “Now, the lot is cleared and all gravesites neat and tidy!”

The diocese also worked with Episcopal Relief & Development immediately after the fires. Some staff members visited Maui in December 2023 to assess the damage and meet with Federal Emergency Management Agency staff. One Episcopal Relief & Development staff member also drove with A Cup of Cold Water volunteers and assisted with distribution of necessities.

Nishioka wrote that Holy Innocents was still under piles of debris on the first anniversary in 2024 but is now cleared.

“Although seeing the ruins last year was hard to swallow, there was at least a feeling of history still preserved within those fallen pieces. Now, with everything cleared, it felt as if Holy Innocents had somehow been erased ... I am both anxious and curious to see what transpires in the years to come,” Nishioka said. “The folks at Holy Innocents are hanging in there and moving forward, still grateful for all that they have, but keenly aware that the journey will be long.”

+ + +

Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

Please note: There was no vestry meeting during the month of August. Meeting minutes for July will be printed in the October edition of the newsletter.

+ + +

Parish Notes



We welcome the return of the Chancel Choir on Sunday, Sept. 14, at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Let us greet the new and our returning choir members and welcome the student choristers!

+ + +

Fall Worship Schedule



The Fall Worship Schedule will begin on **Sunday, Sept. 7!!**

On Sunday, Sept. 7, there will be **one** service of Morning Prayer, Rite II, at 10:30 a.m.
Rod Geiben, Officiant;
Peggy Tofil, Lector.

- Two services of Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. will begin on Sunday, Sept. 14.

+ + +

Coffee Hour



Thank You to everyone who makes our fellowship time after our worship together so wonderful!

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

--- The Kitchen Krew

TECW

Meeting:
September 6, at 9:30 a.m.
in Garland Hall

Rummage sale coming in October,
time to start sorting those bits!!



A good time was had by all who
attended the Fredonia Farm
Festival and stopped by the
church for a free hot dog lunch.

A Big Thank You to the Wilkins
for spear-heading this event!!

+ + +

Lectionary Readings for September: www.lectionarypage.net

Sunday, September 7

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 18

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 1

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

Sunday, September 14

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalms 51:1-11

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Sunday, September 121

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 20

Amos 8:4-7

Psalms 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

Sunday, September 28

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 21

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalms 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

September:

Birthdays

- 4 Heather Gould Martin
- 7 Doug Erick
- 7 Hannah Rexford
- 17 Ethan Cooper
- 27 Matthew Rivera
- 28 Bridget Russell

Wedding Anniversaries

- 18 Byron and Abby Rexford
- 30 Jack and Sue Torrance

In Memoriam

- 12 Arlene Maytum

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Episcopal Church

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467

Fredonia, NY 14063

Office: 716-679-7901

Website: www.trinitychurchwny.org

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Revd. James Clement, Rector

Email: rector@trinitychurchwny.org

Donald Fellows, Organist

Sara Jagoda, Custodian

The Vestry of the Parish

Sally Ludlum, Warden

Jenn Wilkins

Ann Sullivan

Cathy Berner

Jake Wilkins

Melisa Eichmann

Virginia Becker, Treasurer



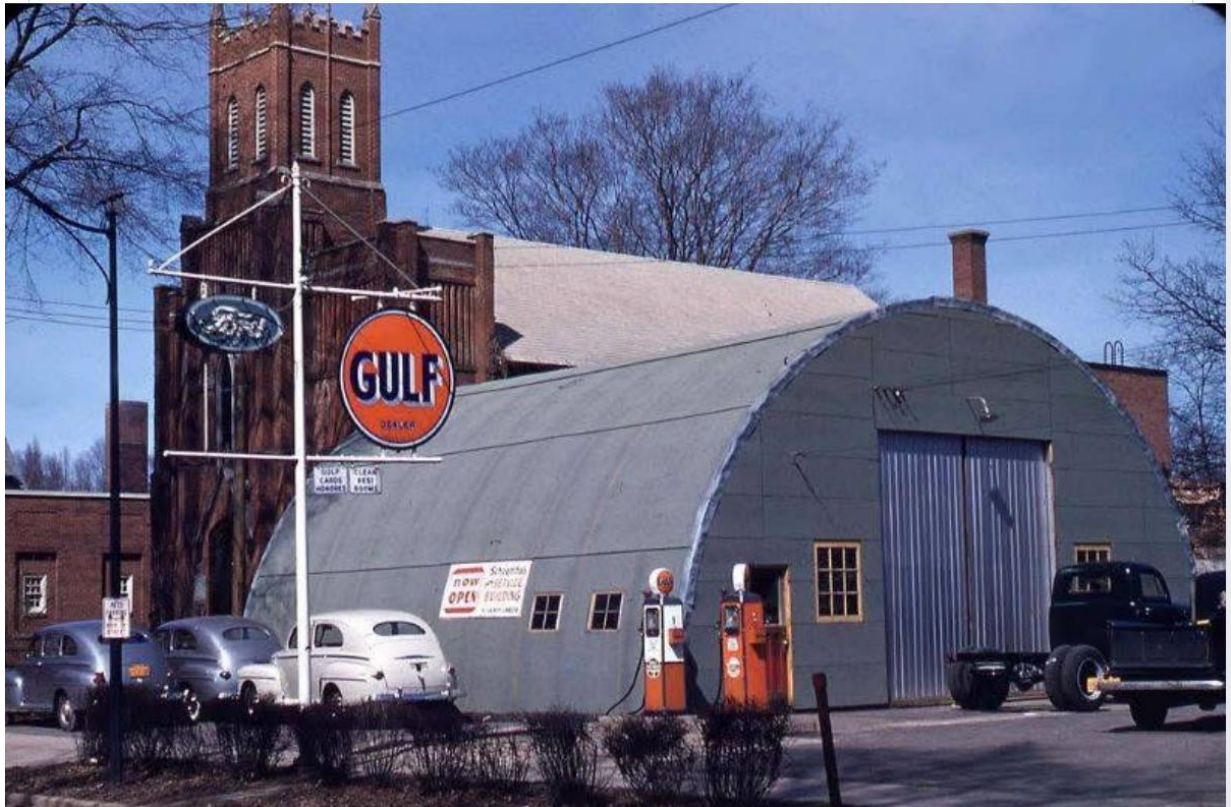
Holy Cross Day *September 15 - transferred*

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

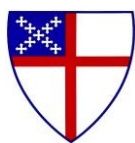
Blast from the Past:

1948 ~ Shoemanthal's Gulf station and garage, Fredonia, NY



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

Volume 8, Issue 9 — September 2025



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*