



Trinity Tidings

June 2026



Congratulations to all our students as they end this term. We wish them a happy and safe summer!

On Sunday, May 10, we held a special coffee hour after the 10:30 service for the SUNY students who have joined with us this past year. We honored, in particular, those who also served as service participants with the choir or altar party: Ashlyn, Adrian, Kaitlyn, Zach, and Mitch.

And, we congratulate Lauren and Nathan Sercu who both graduated from college on Saturday, May 16th: Lauren from Niagara University and Nathan from Jamestown Community College. We wish both of them success in their future academic and professional endeavors.

Godspeed to all the graduates, as they begin a new chapter in their life's journey!

Did you know? The first Book of Common Prayer came into use on the Day of Pentecost, June 9, 1549, in the second year of the reign of King Edward the Sixth. From it have descended all subsequent editions and revisions of the Book in the Churches of the Anglican Communion.

Though prepared by a commission of learned bishops and priests, the format, substance, and style of the Prayer Book were primarily the work of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1533–1556. The principal sources employed in its compilation were the medieval Latin service books of the Use of Sarum (Salisbury), with enrichments from the Greek liturgies, certain ancient Gallican rites, the vernacular German forms prepared by Luther, and a revised Latin liturgy of the reforming Archbishop Hermann of Cologne. The Psalter and other biblical passages were drawn from the English “Great Bible” authorized by King Henry the Eighth in 1539, and the Litany was taken from the English form issued as early as 1544.

The originality of the Prayer Book, apart from the felicitous translations and paraphrases of the old Latin forms, lay in its simplification of the complicated liturgical usages of the medieval Church, so that it was suitable for use by the laity as well as by the clergy. The Book thus became both a manual of common worship for Anglicans and a primary resource for their personal spirituality.

--- from Lesser Feasts and Fasts: 2006, pg. 268.

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Diocese of Western New York

Bishop Search Reset Update

Posted: May 9, 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

In April we wrote to you about entering a season of reset in our bishop search process. We named the places where our process needed strengthening—in clarity, in communication, in shared identity, and in broad diocesan engagement—and we committed to doing that work before moving forward. We are grateful for your prayers and faithfulness in this season.

Today, we write to tell you: the reset work is underway, and we are moving forward together.

The pause we took was an act of faithfulness. It is allowing space for the Standing Committee, the Search Committee, and diocesan leadership to have the candid conversations our process needs about structure, trust, and who we truly are as a diocese.

We know that uncertainty about the timeline has been difficult. We know that some have felt distant from the process. And we know that we as a diocese have a great responsibility: doing the deeper work of discerning and articulating our shared identity as the people of God in Western New York.

Three commitments guiding us forward:

As we re-engage this work, we are grounded in three commitments:

- 1) **Faithfulness over speed.** We will move forward only when the work is ready. We will not rush to fill a vacancy; we are seeking to discern a calling.
- 2) **Transparency and trust.** Communication will be regular, clear, and accountable. You will hear from us consistently—not only when there is something to announce, but as a steady engagement throughout this process.
- 3) **Shared discernment.** The voices of the whole diocese will shape the profile and the process. This search belongs to all of us.

What comes next:

The Search Committee reconvenes with renewed structure, a revised charge from the Standing Committee, and a strengthened leadership model. After reflection on the demands of this work, the Standing Committee has determined that the scope of a search is best served by two leaders sharing full responsibility with clear definition of roles. We are pleased to announce that Ms. Lisa Yaggie and the Rev. Nick Evancho will now serve as co-chairs, bringing experience and complementary strengths to bear together. We are deeply grateful for all that each has already contributed, and confident that this structure will serve the search and the diocese well.

We are also pleased to announce that we have retained Ms. Carrie Graves as our communications consultant to support the diocese throughout the search, ensuring that our communications are consistent, clear, and worthy of the trust you have placed in us. Carrie has served as canon for communications in the dioceses of Upper South Carolina and Maryland. She was the staff liaison for the bishop search in Maryland and saw that communication about the search reached the diocesan community and the media, as appropriate, through multiple platforms and strategies. She also works in a supporting communications capacity with the Diocese of Lexington, bringing to Western New York a current and firsthand perspective on how dioceses across the Church are approaching this work.

A summary of the road ahead:

Spring–Summer 2026. Governance and structure strengthened; Search Committee operational reset and relational covenant; communications framework launched.

Summer–Fall 2026. A renewed season of listening across the Diocese—diocesan-wide gatherings, regional in-person sessions, and targeted conversations with clergy, lay leaders, and racial justice groups. The data from the Holy Cow Survey and our listening sessions will be shared as part of this process.

Fall 2026 (October 23–24). Diocesan Convention: presentation on search progress and approval of election rules of order.

Advent 2026 (November). Publication of a revised and faithful diocesan profile, reflecting who

we truly are. Active recruitment begins.

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Winter–Spring 2027. Discernment and candidate process, including application review, interviews, and a semi-finalist retreat.

May 1, 2027. Special Electing Convention.

September 18, 2027. Consecration of the Bishop-Elect (subject to the 120-day consent process required by the canons of The Episcopal Church).

We recognize that this timeline is longer than many had hoped. We ask for your continued patience and trust. Proceeding with time to allow for care, discernment, trust, and detail is critical to the work. We are committed to doing this right.

What you can expect from us:

Beginning now, you will receive regular updates from us—biweekly diocesan communications during active phases, and monthly narrative reflections that keep us connected to one another and to the spiritual grounding of this work. We will also be rebuilding our digital presence to ensure that information about the search is accessible, current, and welcoming to all who wish to follow along.

If you have questions, concerns, or thoughts you wish to share, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Standing Committee through the diocesan office. We are listening.

Our work as the Church is not simply to call a bishop. With God's help, we are becoming a community fully ready to receive the one who is called to us. That honest, patient, and prayerful work is already underway.

Please continue to hold this Diocese, and this process, in your prayers. We give thanks for each of you.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Luke Fodor, President
and the Members of the Standing Committee
Episcopal Diocese of Western New York

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes

April 21, 2026

As approved at the May Meeting

Present: Melisa Eichmann, Warden; Jake Wilkins, Junior Warden; Ann Sullivan; Cathy Berner (phone); Virginia Becker, Treasurer; Jenn Wilkins, Clerk; The Reverend James Clement, Rector.

Excused: Janeil Rey.

Call to Order: Father Clement called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m., with an opening prayer.

Meeting Agenda: Agenda approved with a motion made by Ann Sullivan, seconded by Melisa Eichmann.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Ginny Becker, seconded by Cathy Berner to approve the March 24, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Finance / Building and Grounds:

Finance: Written report prepared by Ginny Becker and presented. Jake Wilkins made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Melisa Eichmann. Motion carried. See attached report.

- **General Fund:** All monthly and quarterly financial obligations were met. A new vacuum was purchased.
- **Building Fund:** The balance remains at \$241.34.
- **Memorial Fund:** The current balance is \$4,212.28. A memorial for Jack Torrance was received.
- **Music Fund:** The balance is \$397.36, which should be enough to finish the semester.

Buildings & Ground: Reported by Father Clement.

- The downspout at the clerestory roof has been repaired. Due to the heavy rain, however, water has made its way into the Godly Play room and the storage room located downstairs.

- A new filter will soon be purchased for the dehumidifier.
- No further leaks found in the parish hall since the winter thaw. Vestry decided to wait and see what occurs during the summer months before contacting roof repair.

Congregational Ministries:

Flower Guild: Melisa Eichmann reported.

- The current balance is \$213. Paid in full for two flower invoices; to Brigiottas for \$371.29, to Fresh-n-Fancy for \$120.

TECW:

- Spring Rummage sale will take place on Friday, April 24 (9am – 3pm) and Saturday, April 25 (9am – 12pm).

College Kitchen:

- Fredonia Village clean-up took place on Saturday, April 18th, with at least 65 volunteers present.
- Sonos Saxophone Quartet will hold a recital on Sunday, April 26. The College Kitchen will provide refreshments after the event: veggie tray, brownies, cupcakes and drinks, which will also include the paper products. The quartet will provide a main dish item.

Rector’s Report:

- The Easter Day service went well, and thank you to everyone who helped – in any way – to make that possible.
- The parish newsletter will go out next week. Please submit information as soon as possible.
- Thank you to Rod Geiben and Peggy Tofil for being service participants for the Morning Prayer service while Fr. Clement was away.
- Sunday, May 10, will be the last day for the Chancel Choir this term. The TECW is offering a cake for a special coffee hour following the 10:30 service. The Kitchen Crew will take care of coffee, tea and juice. Ann Sullivan will coordinate this event.
- Fr. Clement informed Vestry that the search for the next bishop diocesan has been postponed. More information about this is forthcoming.

Old Business

- N/A.

New Business

- N/A.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54p.m. with a motion made by Melisa Eichmann, seconded by Ann Sullivan. Carried. Vestry concluded its time together with prayer. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer Wilkins.

Parish Notes

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Important dates in June:

Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m., with hymns.

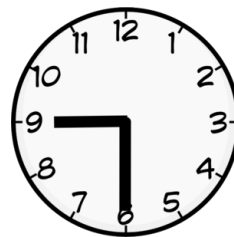
TECW Meeting: Saturday, June 6, at 9:30 a.m.

Vestry Meeting: Tuesday, June 23, at 5:30 p.m.

Holy Baptism: Sam Family – Saturday, June 27.

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Summer Worship Schedule



The Summer service schedule will begin on **Sunday, June 7th at 9:30 a.m.**

One service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II, will take place on Sundays during June, July, and August.

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TECW

TECW Meeting

Saturday, June 6 at 9:30 a.m.

In Garland Hall – Last meeting until September.

Looking ahead:

July 21, Tuesday

Episcopal House Tea

Chautauqua Institute

TECW has been asked to host the Tuesday Tea on July 21st. We have gained quite a reputation on the grounds for having one of the most varied and delicious tea offerings. If you would like to join us for the day, please sign up on the sheet on notice board in Garland Hall.

If you are unable to attend but would like to contribute a baked good please note that on the form. We leave from the church parking lot around 10 return by 4:30. It's a wonderful day on the grounds and a chance to chat with other Episcopalians from all over the country.

Keep saving those quarters for the Stocking Savings project which is open to all parishioners. If you need a new container they are available in Garland Hall and by the front door of the church.

Thank you TECW Sunshine Team A for hosting the spring choir reception. It was a delightful event and the students were most grateful for the honor. Three of our students are exploring life after a four-year degree.

Birthdays in June

- 3 Lenore Jakiela
- 4 Janeil Rey
- 6 Cathy Berner
- 10 Julie Maytum
- 11 Bonnie Liener
- 16 Jinny Kopp
- 17 Lindsay Parker
- 23 Mark Maytum
- 28 Rich Mancuso
- 30 Lisa Schultz

Wedding Anniversaries in June

- 9 Daniel and Jeanette Adamczak
- 13 Patti and Jared Cooper

In Memoriam

- 5 Nathaniel Ludlum
- 11 Sarah Clark
- 24 Paul Jakiela

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Parish Clergy and Staff

The Revd. James Clement, Rector

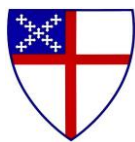
Email: rector@trinitychurchwny.org

Donald Fellows, Organist

Sara Jagoda, Custodian

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The newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

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