



The Abbeville Anglican



The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

Volume 15

JULY 2021

Number 06

Restoration Continues

We continue to make progress in our restoration and are nearing the end of the stabilization and reconstruction of the tower and steeple. We are now waiting for the tin smiths to place the protective flashing in the bottom of the steeple floor and the steeple jacks will begin to place the new shingles on the steeple. That will complete most of the steeple work for now and the scaffolding will begin to come down. We have been having a large problem with dust all over the place, but that has been unavoidable while it has been necessary for the workers to do sawing in the nave. As soon as that work is complete and the steeple is re-shingled, we will do a complete cleaning of the church. Our summer numbers have been good and we are having more visitors some of which maybe looking for a church home.

The Labyrinth

Work also continues with some final touches on the labyrinth and the labyrinth garden. Please continue to talk about the labyrinth to your friends in other congregations and advise them that a labyrinth brochure is available to guide them through the process if they are not exactly sure how a labyrinth is supposed to work. We already have some good feedback on the labyrinth with some visitors reporting that it has enhanced their prayer life which is exactly what is supposed to happen. We will also be happy to provide assistance to individuals and or groups who request assistance. We have also had at least two phone calls from other cities requesting information about the labyrinth and times of availability. Please help us promote the labyrinth by talking to Sunday School teachers and others who might wish to bring children to the church for a visit. Memorial benches are still available and if you would like one for yourself or someone else See Cynthia or Lewis. It is a beautiful way to memorialize a person who has been important to your life and experience.

Trinity Sunday Luncheon

Many of our members enjoyed a wonderful luncheon on the *Feast of the Holy Trinity* at the Belmont Inn following Mass. After a year of enduring pandemic from Covid-19 and separation from everyone except our close family members, it was refreshing to be able to sit down with church friends for fellowship and conversation. The food was good and it was a wonderful day on which to celebrate an important feast of the Church. It had been our custom for many years to celebrate the feast on our parish green under the shade trees with a southern style picnic but, this year, we decided to try something different which also made for a pleasant day. Thank you to all who worked to make our feast day memorable.

Bishop Search Continues

The Bishop Search Committee spent the weekend of June 18th and 19th with the finalists for the new Bishop in a retreat dedicated to prayer, meditation and an opportunity to get a better understanding of the candidates views and positions that might affect the management of a diocese. We received a request from the Senior Warden to pray for this important retreat that had been circulated through the convocations. On August 14th, the search committee will submit the slate of finalists to be reviewed and approved by the Standing Committee of the Diocese and on the weekend of September 11th and 12th, the candidate walk-about will be held and we will be able to actually hear what the candidates have to say for themselves. Trinity usually attends the meeting in Greenville which usually is held at Christ Church on a Sunday afternoon. On September 25th the new Bishop will be elected at Trinity Cathedral. As a mission church, Trinity will only have 2 votes. Please make your plans to attend this meeting at Christ Church if you are able. Those people who cast Trinity's two votes will want your impressions and ideas about whom you think will make the best bishop.

Convocation Meets

The Foothills Convocation met at the Church of the Redeemer on Sunday, June 13th at 2:00 pm. The meeting was conducted by Father Flanagan, Dean of the Convocation and Canon Hartley from the Diocese. It was reported that the first draft of the Statement of Mission (Budget) to run the Diocese in 2022 has been submitted to the DEC (Diocesan Executive Council). This process usually undergoes several modifications before the final draft is submitted to the Diocesan Convention for a vote in November. Three new lay persons and three clergy persons will be elected to the DEC at the Diocesan Convention. If you wish to be nominated for one of these positions; or to nominate someone else, the forms are available from the diocesan website. Also, there is one vacancy on the Ecclesiastical Court; and also, a new Trustee will be elected for Sewanee. Nominees must be in by September 6th. Holy Cross is also looking for a new Rector as Father Flanagan will retire at the end of the year. Our best wishes to Father Flanagan who is a remarkably gifted priest and has made many important contributions to our diocese. The next meeting of the convocation will be on September 19th at 2:00 pm at the Church of the Redeemer.

Any Ideas??

Do you have any ideas to improve this newsletter? Would you like to write an article about something you think our readers might like to know, or have you read something in some other publication that you would like to share with our readers here? We are open to any and all suggestions you might have to make this newsletter more interesting; and would like to hear your views and any complaints as well. As you know, we enjoy running letters from our readers which tell about their personal encounters with Trinity. Please feel free to write us to express any concerns you may have with our parish or the diocese.

Feast Days in July:

Saint Mary Magdalene

On July 22nd, we celebrate the *Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene*. She has often been called the second most important woman in the *New Testament* after the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Savior. She was with Jesus at the two most significant events in his earthly ministry: his crucifixion and his Resurrection. Within the texts of the four Gospels, she is mentioned at least 12 times, more than most of the Apostles. She showed herself to be strong enough to stand with Jesus in his hours of suffering, death and beyond. In the *New Testament*, Jesus cleansed her of “seven demons” (Luke 8:2, Mark 16:9), sometimes interpreted as possibly referring to complex illnesses. Saint Mary Magdalene was with Jesus all the time he was suffering on the cross, even when the other Apostles had fled (except for John the Beloved). She was at Jesus’ burial, and she was the only person to be listed in all four Gospels as being the first person to realize that Jesus had risen and to testify to that central teaching of the Faith. John and Mark specifically name her as the first person to see Jesus after his Resurrection. She is often referred to as the Apostle to the Apostles, an honorific bestowed upon her by Saint Augustine in the 4th century. Saint Mary Magdalene is revered as a saint in the Catholic, Anglican, Orthodox and Lutheran Churches; while other protestant churches honor her as a major heroine of the Faith.

Saint James

On the 25th of July, we celebrate the *Feast of Saint James the Apostle*. He was the son of Zebedee and the brother of Saint John the Apostle. The *Bible* tells us he was one of the first to join Jesus. The Synoptic Gospels report that James and John were on the seashore with their father when Jesus called them to follow him. James is only one of three apostles to witness the Transfiguration of Jesus. *The Acts of the Apostles* records that Herod the King had James executed by sword. He is the only apostle whose martyrdom is recorded in the *New Testament*. He is, thus, traditionally believed the first apostle martyred for the Faith. James was fervent in his faith and often aggressive in the propagation of the Gospel. He and his brother were known for their hot tempers for which they earned the nickname Boanergers or “sons of thunder.” Saint James is the patron saint of Spain and his relics are contained in the Cathedral of

Santiago de Compostela in Galicia. His symbols are the scallop shell and the pilgrim’s hat. Catholic tradition holds that the first mystical visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary was to Saint James.

The Prayers of the People

The Book of Common Prayer uses the title “Prayers of the People” for the *oratio fidelium* or general intercessions in the Eucharist. Such prayers have a long and venerable history. For centuries they have formed a part of the Daily Office and Eucharistic Liturgy. In the early church, they usually included a long series of biddings which were chanted by a deacon, to each of which the people responded *Kyrie Eleison* (Lord have mercy). For many years, visitors were invited to sign the request for prayer list in the narthex and we were happy to call their names from the High Altar in the Prayers of the People each Sunday. We will return to that procedure when the narthex is back in order. As you know we still call many names for the sick and departed in our Sunday prayers. Listen closely, as these people are in sickness or tribulation. Ask Jesus to bless, heal and comfort these people and to give them his peace. We also had many visitors on Saturday afternoons, who lit candles and said their prayers in the Lady Chapel and at the High Altar. This practice we will also gladly resume when the restoration is complete. It gave us great pleasure to be able to receive these people. Prayers have been offered from this place for almost 200 years. It is Holy Ground.

Questions?

We sometimes get questions, especially from new Episcopalians, about the practices of the Church. We do not always know the answer, but we usually know where to find the answer. If you are a new person to the Anglican Faith, feel free to ask any questions you may have. The more you know about the practices, liturgies, history and mysticism of the Church, the more meaningful your worship experiences will become. We have this question from a new Episcopalian. What is meant by crossing oneself at certain times in the Mass?

The Sign of the Cross

Making the Cross is a ritual blessing made by some branches of Christianity, usually accompanied by the spoken or mental recitation of the Trinitarian formula: “In the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” It is an outward

manifestation of our receipt and our thanksgiving for the Gift of Salvation and the incredible price that was necessary to be paid on the cross for us to have this Gift. The Sign of the Cross is a Sacramental if we make it with the right hand by touching the forehead (showing our belief in the cross), the breast (showing our love for the cross) and our shoulders (showing our readiness to bear the cross). The sign of the cross is one of the most powerful weapons we can use in the battle with the devil. In a statement attributed to St. John Chrysostom, demons are said to “fly away” at the Sign of the Cross “dreading it as a staff with which they are beaten.” The Sign of the Cross is used in several Christian traditions and is seen mostly in the Catholic, Anglican and Orthodox Churches. In the Episcopal Church, the Sign of the Cross is almost always made by Anglo-Catholics (High Church) and almost never by Evangelicals (Low Church). The making of the cross is entirely optional and is a matter of one’s own personal piety.

United Thank Offering (UTO)

The United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the entire Church. Through UTO individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day and give thanks to God for these blessings and to make an offering for each blessing using the small UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings and to distribute 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout the National Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. Many Episcopalians drop a dime or quarter in the little Blue Box as a thank you to God for an unexpected blessing over the course of several months. Many Episcopal parents use this method to train their children to express thanks giving to God for his blessings and this wonderful tradition is often passed down from generation to generation. When we had youngsters at Trinity, they loved to bring their Blue Boxes full of change up to the altar at the Ingathering. Blue Boxes will be available at the table in the back of the nave if this program appeals to you and the Ingathering will be on the last Sunday in September. This program is managed by the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and is used for local and worldwide programming for ministries in the Episcopal Church.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Eucharistic Lectionary Year B Office Lectionary Year I	Our Service Books: BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feasts and Fasts	Lessons and Readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary	The Symbol (+) designates a day to be observed by special acts of discipline and devotion.	1	2 +	3
4 6th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist <i>Independence Day</i>	5	6	7	8	9 +	10
11 7th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 Noon Vestry Meets	12	13	14	15	16 +	17
18 8th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	19	20	21	22 Saint Mary Magdalene (Altar: White)	23 +	24
25 9th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist -	26 Saint James The Apostle (Altar: Red) transferred from July 25th	27	28	29 Mary and Martha Of Bethany	30 +	31

July 4, 2021 (Proper 9)

Celebrant: The Rev. Peggy Muncie
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Dick
 Acolytes: Andrew, Lewis
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Colors: Green
 1st Lesson: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
 Psalm: 48 Magnus Dominus
 The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
 The Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

July 11, 2021 (Proper 10)

Celebrant: The Rev. Rilla Holmes
 Eucharistic Minister: Dick
 Lector: Mary Anne
 Acolytes: Andrew, Lewis
 Altar Guild: Myra
 Altar Colors: Green
 1st Lesson: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
 Psalm 24 Domini est terra
 The Epistle: Ephesians 1:3-14
 The Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

The Vestry will meet on July 11th immediately following Mass.

July 18, 2021 (Proper 11)

Celebrant: The Rev. Rilla Holmes
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Ruth
 Acolytes: Andrew, Lewis
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Colors: Green
 1st Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
 Psalm: 89: 20-37 Qui regis Israel
 The Epistle: Ephesians 2:11-22
 The Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 25, 2021 (Proper 12)

Celebrant: The Rev. Alice Haynes
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Dick
 Acolytes: Andrew, Lewis
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 Altar Colors: Green
 1st Lesson: 2 Samuel 11:1-15
 Psalm 14 Dixit insipiens
 The Epistle: Ephesians 3:14-21
 The Gospel: John 6:1-21

Jesus said: Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. He meant it! Matthew 11:28.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

07/04—Judy

07/04—God Bless America

Collect for Independence Day

Lord God Almighty, in whose name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen (Book of Common Prayer, P. 242.)

WANTED: Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Acolytes and Worship Leaders. If you would like to participate in any of these ministries, advise the Senior Warden. Have you invited someone to church lately? Give it a try. Thanks.

Trinity Episcopal Church
Post Office Box 911
200 Church Street
Abbeville, South Carolina 29620
www.trinityabbeville.org

Our Mission Statement:

To do the work that Christ has given us to do.

Our Bishop

The Right Reverend W. Andrew Waldo

Our Vicar:

The Vicariate is currently vacant.

The Vestry:

Cynthia Jefferies, Senior Warden (23)
Hank Baggett, Junior Warden (22)
Dick Haldeman, Clerk (21)
Myra Keith (22)
Ilona Anderson (23)
Betty Tucker (21)
Mike Clary (22)

Parish Administrator and Registrar:

Dick Haldeman

Treasurer:

Ilona Anderson

Musicians:

John Pullin, Organist & Choirmaster
Lewis Ashley, Assistant Organist
Mary Anne Campbell, Cantor
Ruth Freeman, Cantor

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley

Worship Leaders:

Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley
Cynthia Jefferies
Hank Baggett
Jennie Leverich

Altar Guild:

Michele Wells, Chairman
Myra Keith
Ruth Freeman
Lewis Ashley

Lectors (Lay Readers):

Dick Haldeman
Ruth Freeman
Mary Anne Campbell
Jennie Leverich
Betty Tucker

Acolytes:

Lewis Ashley
Andrew Hartsfield

Eucharistic Visitors:

Lewis Ashley
Hank Baggett
Cynthia Jefferies
Jennie Leverich

Greeters/Ushers

Ilona Anderson
Hank Baggett

Parish Historian:

May Hutchinson

Children's Programs:

Jan Haldeman

Bulletins, Special Projects:

John Pullin
Jennie Leverich

Sexton (Buildings & Grounds):

Buddy Wells

Diocesan Convention Delegation:

Lewis Ashley (Voting)
Hank Baggett (Voting)
Cynthia Jefferies (Alternate)
Dick Haldeman (Alternate)

Newsletters:

Lewis Ashley
Jennie Leverich

Sunday School/Bible Study:

Hank Baggett

For all who faithfully support this mission congregation, we give God thanks and praise.

Editorially Speaking:

As we approach the 4th of July and the birthday of our great republic, I hope you will forgive me the self-indulgence of a little reminiscence on times past. I will admit to being a "beach bum" at heart and am happiest when I can feel the sand between my toes and have my eyes cast seaward. For many years of my adult life, I spent 4th of July week at the beach and allowed myself to be immersed in the sights, sounds and smells of the Carolina coast in summer. At that time the Myrtle Beaches were swarming with a half million people from all over the earth and I was rubbing elbows with those "all sorts and conditions of men" that we pray for in our *Book of Common Prayer* (p. 814). And as the evening shadows began to fall on the 4th, thousands of people began to occupy the gardens and outdoor eating spaces of the hotels and guest houses that looked out upon the ocean and the historic 9th Avenue pier which extended quite far out into the ocean. The crowds were happily consuming everything from steak and lobster to corn dogs and beer to exotic champagnes. As night fell we were regaled by music of God and Country by the US Air Force Band and perhaps a short address from some celebrity on an inspirational patriotic theme. As darkness fell, the spotlight illuminated the great American flag which was streaming brilliantly in the stiff ocean breeze. And as the band played the introduction to the national anthem, thousands of people came to their feet waving their small American flags and numerous of our Canadian and English cousins were waving their flags as well in tribute to our great republic. And as several thousand voices joined in the singing of our national anthem, suddenly the night sky was illuminated by fireworks "and the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. O, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave." May that God who is our "refuge and strength" (Psalm 46) always continue to bless our native land. Amen. Editor

Reprinted from the July 2019 newsletter by request..

Dear Editor:

You Episcopalians are quite a lot. You represent one oldest and most honorable traditions in all of Christendom. Your liturgies and rituals are magnificent and inspiring. But you folks are way too liberal for your own good! We Presbyterians can live with the idea of persons conducting their personal lives as they see fit, but to actually create a liturgy to bless same sex relationships is way over the line even for some liberal Presbyterians. I wonder if the Archbishop of Canterbury is blushing? I will admit to reading your newsletter all the time and was very moved by the article several years ago about the young man denied the priesthood because he was gay. I would like to see that article repeated.

Sincerely,

Name Withheld (For fear of my life)

Dear Friend:

We know who you are and love you and your great Presbyterian Tradition (Scotland Forever!!). Many Episcopalians agree with your position. We are trying hard to get it right and it is very important to us to make everyone feel wanted and comfortable in the Episcopal Church. The article that you requested follows.

Brandon was a very bright and handsome 12-year-old when both of his parents were killed in a traffic accident in Atlanta. His only living relative was his grandmother. Although she was in her sixties, she was happy to take him into her home. She lived on one of the small sea islands off the Georgia coast and he readily fit into the island culture. He especially loved the fact that he could walk to the beach every day. The island people quickly grew to love him. He was a good boy, a good student and made a lovely altar boy who served Mass with the priest every Sunday (Episcopal). By the time he was sixteen, he told the priest that he had a calling to the priesthood. With the help of his priest and his bishop, he graduated from high school, college and seminary with honors. Sadly, the old priest and bishop died before he finished at the seminary. Only one problem in this beautiful picture. At age 18, he had developed an intimate relationship with another male. They had been best friends since he came to the island and the relationship was quiet, personal and completely discreet. No one in the community thought anything about it. When he was being examined by the new bishop for his ordination to the Diaconate, he was asked about his sexuality so pointedly, that he was not able to evade the issue. He told the truth. The bishop told him that he would not be able to ordain him to the Diaconate or to the Sacred Order of Priests. Brandon worked in Africa for two years with the poor, contracted a serious tropical disease, and returned to his home on the island. He died two years later with complications from the disease (or was it a broken heart). The simple inscription on his tombstone reads: *My Jesus, I failed you. Forgive me. Have Mercy.* When the bishop made his yearly visit to that small parish church, he always got a cool welcome. Many of those members had hoped that Brandon would have been their next parish priest.

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen. From the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.