



The Abbeville Anglican

The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

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Restoration Update

There have been several busy days at Trinity recently with a lot of activity around the church and people walking around the tower and consulting their architectural drawings. Mr. Michael Bedenbaugh, Preservation South Carolina Director, has called us directly to tell us that all the latest bids are now in and final decisions will be completed by mid July and the final costs will be known for the stabilization of the bell tower and the new roof. We appreciate his kindness in bringing this latest information to the members and friends of Trinity directly. Some of you have indicated that your friends have stated that they will send their contributions when the work actually begins. That's fine. To make everyone's job a little easier, ask them to send their money directly to the Preservation South Carolina website which has an easy system to receive the funds. We hope to see the scaffolding begin to go up soon. We will keep you posted.

Low Country Update

Many of you remember the utter turmoil that was created several years ago when Bishop Lawrence left the Church and took most of his diocese with him. This was especially troubling as the Diocese of South Carolina was the third oldest in the American Church and had played a major role in the establishment of the Episcopal Church in this country. Those former Episcopalians are now in the Anglican Church in North America and form its largest diocese. The Episcopal remnant that remained is now known as the Episcopal Church in South Carolina. They have struggled for years as the departing group took their churches with them. That resulted in years of legal wrangling and millions of dollars in property which has changed hands in the courts at least twice. Those legal battles continue. In the interim, retired

Bishop Charles Von Rosenberg, former Rector of the Church of the Resurrection and later Bishop of East Tennessee served as Bishop Provisional for the Episcopal group and later Bishop Adams who will retire at the end of this year. The good news is that the Episcopal Church in South Carolina has gained in membership and is now ready to appoint a full time Bishop for their diocese. This process is being assisted by Bishop Todd Ousley of the National Church's Office for Pastoral Development. The election, ordination and consecration of a new bishop in the Episcopal Church is always a lengthy process and often takes 18 months to two years. The process also requires consent from the majority of the House of Bishops and a majority consent of the Standing Committees of the 110 dioceses of the Episcopal Church. Our fellow Episcopalians in the low country have really had a difficult several years, but hopefully, are about to enter a new era of stability and prosperity. We wish them well!

World Refugee Day

"When we welcome the stranger, we welcome the Lord God Himself, we welcome Jesus" stated Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop and Primate, Michael Curry in his 2019 World Refugee Day message. We are encouraged by the Presiding Bishop to pray, learn about refugees, learn about what you can do, and do whatever you can to help strangers in your midst. On World Refugee Day, held each year on June 20, we honor and celebrate the courage, strength and resilience of refugees worldwide. This day is an opportunity to show support to those 68 million people around the world who are refugees or internally displaced due to conflict or persecution. Episcopal Migration Ministry is one of nine national agencies responsible for resettling refugees in the US in partnership with the government. You may read or

view the Presiding Bishop's message on the Episcopal News Service website or the Episcopal Church website.

LGBTQ and the Church

The full inclusion of LGBTQ in the life of the Episcopal Church had barely been considered by its policymaking bodies when the Stonewall uprising began on June 28, 1969. But many Episcopalians, anchored in the rhetoric and context of those times, had been pushing for equality in the Church and in society for at least seven years before that event, which is now acknowledged as the beginning of the gay rights movement in this country. This progress was slow and halting. The goal of their efforts is still not universally accepted today, a year after the Episcopal Church took its strongest step to date by agreeing to a plan to give all Episcopalians, regardless of their sexual orientation, the ability to be married by their priests in their home churches. It is fair to point out that there are still many churchmen, priests and bishops who oppose this notion. Our Bishop's views on this matter are completely in keeping with the current recommendations of the General Convention and the Presiding Bishop. He allows the blessing of same-sex unions with the approval of the parish members, the vestry and the parish priest. If a priest cannot in good conscience bless such a union, he may defer to another priest who may be appointed by the Bishop. Our Bishop has wisely chosen the traditional *Via Media* (middle way) of the Episcopal Church which respects the positions of all people. A recent and very lengthy article on the Episcopal News Service recounts the entire history of this still very controversial issue in the life of the Episcopal Church. This article is based on and quotes from that very comprehensive article. This issue needs a lot of prayer and thought and is not going away anytime soon. See related article on page 4.

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. She was with Jesus at two of the 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. St. Mary Magdalene was with Jesus all the time he was suffering on the cross, even when the other Apostles had fled (except St. John the Beloved). She was at Jesus’ burial, and she is the only person to be listed in all four Gospels as 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 the Resurrection. She is often referred to as the *Apostle to the Apostles*, an honorific bestowed upon her by Saint Augustine in the 4th century. St. Mary Magdalene is revered as a saint in the Catholic, Anglican, Orthodox and Lutheran Churches, while other protestant churches honor her as a 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 one of only three apostles to witness the Transfiguration of Jesus. The *Acts of the Apostles* records that Herod the King had James executed by the sword. He is the only apostle whose martyrdom is recorded in the New Testament. He is, thus, traditionally believed to be the first apostle martyred for the Faith. James was fervent in the Faith and often aggressive in its propagation. He and his brother were known for their hot tempers for which they earned the nickname Boanerges 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 St. James.

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 respond *Kyrie Eleison* (Lord have mercy). For many years, visitors to our church signed the prayer request list in the narthex and we were happy to call their names from the High Altar in the Prayers of the People each Sunday. 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. When we were still in the main church, we had many visitors, especially on Saturday afternoons, who lit candles and said their prayers in the Lady Chapel and at the High Altar. 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 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 service?

The Sign of the Cross

Making the Cross is a ritual blessing made by some branches of Christianity, often 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 thankfulness 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 powerful weapons we 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, Orthodox and Anglican 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.

Trinity Sunday Picnic

Trinity Sunday was a wonderful day at Trinity, beginning with the beautiful liturgy for the *Feast of the Holy Trinity* and concluding with a delightful picnic lunch on the parish green. Great weather, great food and great fellowship made for an overall fun experience. Even though it was also Father’s Day, several of our members who are fortunate enough to still have their fathers with them managed to find time to spend with their fathers as well. Several of our members commented on how nice it would be to be back in our church by this time next year.

Choirmaster at Sewanee

Our choirmaster and organist will again be in heaven for a week when he attends the annual organ workshop and seminar at Sewanee in the middle of July. This annual conference brings together each year some of the world’s finest organists. The 70-rank Casavant organ in the elegant All Saints Chapel is a sight to see and a joy to hear. At this workshop, church organists have a chance to hear and perform the great liturgical music of the Church of England as well as the Episcopal Church. They are also able to participate in services of Evensong and other beautiful liturgies not often heard except in the large parishes and cathedrals. These workshops are often conducted by the Anglican Church’s best organists and choirmasters; and we all know that the Anglican Church has the finest sacred music in the world. John has often described the week as one of the most rewarding and enjoyable events of his summer. He will be away from our bench for two weeks in July.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH						
JULY 2019						
<i>This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 119:24)</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Eucharistic Lectionary Year C Office Lectionary Year 1	1	2	3 6:00 Evening Prayer	4 Independence Day	5	6
7 4 th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	8	9	10 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	11	12	13
14 5 th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 Noon Vestry Meets	15	16	17 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	18	19	20
21 6 th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12 :00 Noon	22 Saint Mary Magdalene (Altar: White)	23	24 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	25 Saint James The Apostle (Altar: Red)	26 <i>Ann and Joachim Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	27
28 7 th Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	29 <i>Mary and Martha of Bethany</i>	30	31 6:00 pm Evening Prayer	Thanks for all the great food you brought to the picnic. It was a blast! All the stray cats also want to say THANK YOU.	BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feast And Fasts	<i>All Lessons and Readings are from The Revised Common Lectionary</i>

July 7, 2019 (Proper 9)
Celebrant: Father Ken Tucker
Eucharistic Minister: Dick
Lector: Betty
Acolytes: Andrew, Lewis
Altar Guild: Myra
Altar Colors: Green
1st Lesson: 2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm: 30 *Exaltabo te, Domine*
The Epistle: Galatians 6(1-6) 7-16
The Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14, 2019 (Proper 10)
Celebrant: Mother Alice Haynes
Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
Lector: Jennie
Acolyte: Andrew
Altar Guild: Lewis
Altar Colors: Green
1st Lesson: Amos 7:7-17
Psalm: *Deus Stetit*
The Epistle: Colossians 1:1-14
The Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

July 21, 2019 (Proper 11)
Celebrant: Mother Alice Haynes
Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
Lector: Mary Anne
Acolyte: Andrew
Altar Guild: Michele
Altar Colors: Green
1st Lesson: Amos 8:1-12
Psalm : 52 *Quid gloriaris*
The Epistle: Colossians 1:15-28
The Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

July 28, 2019 (Proper 12)
Celebrant: To be Announced
Eucharistic Minister: Dick
Lector: Ruth
Acolyte: Andrew
Altar Guild: Michele
Altar Colors: Green
1st Lesson: Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm: 85 *Benedixisti, Domine*
2nd Lesson: Colossians 2:6-19
The Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Happy Birthday
07/04—Father Swartsfager (Ames)

The Vestry will meet on July 14th immediately following the Euhcharist.

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. (BCP, p. 242).

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. Psalm 85:1 Benedixisti Domini.

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

The Vicar:

The Vicariate is currently vacant.

The Vestry:

Cynthia Jefferies, Senior Warden
Andrew Hartsfield
Myra Keith
Betty Tucker
Mary Anne Campbell
Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley

Parish Administrator

Dick Haldeman

Treasurer:

Lewis Ashley

Musicians:

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

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley
Ruth Freeman

Worship Leaders:

Dick Haldeman
Lewis Ashley
John Pullin

Altar Guild:

Michele Wells, Chairman
Myra Keith
Ruth Freeman
Lewis Ashley

Lectors (Lay Readers):

Mary Anne Campbell
Jennie Leverich
Dick Haldeman
Ruth Freeman

Acolytes:

Lewis Ashley
Andrew Hartsfield

Eucharistic Visitors:

Lewis Ashley
John Pullin

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:

Jennie Leverich (Voting)
Lewis Ashley (Voting)
Cynthia Jefferies (Alternate)
Jan 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.

Intercessory Prayer List

Each issue of our newsletter will include a list for intercessory prayer to include all our members and friends of this parish. Some are sick and some are well. We simply request that in your personal prayers and special intentions that you will lift these friends up unto the Lord who will know specifically what their needs are. When we have been through our entire list of members and friends, we will begin over again. Please feel free to advise us of any person not a member of this parish who you might wish to be on this list. Thank you!

Intercessory Prayer List

Please remember the following persons in your prayers during the month of July.
Martha
Charles (Claxton)
May
Jean (Hutchinson)
Anne (Waigand)
Fred
Our Diocesan Staff
Jeff

Letters from Our Friends?

Dear Trinity:

You Episcopalians are quite a lot. You represent one of the 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. Just bear with us. We are trying very 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 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 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 16, 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 bishop and priest 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 thee. Forgive me. Have Mercy.* When the bishop made his yearly visit to that small parish church, he always got a very cool welcome. Brandon probably would have been their next parish priest.