



The Abbeville Anglican



The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

Volume 18

MAY 2024

Number 5

Restoration Planning Revisited

Many of you are asking. What is the current situation with the restoration and where do we go from here. You are aware that all of the funds that were raised for the restoration have been spent with good results. The church is basically secure and after three years of being out of the building, we are "happily back at home." Trinity contributed about \$300,000 from our restoration fund and another \$400,000 from an anonymous donor. Near the beginning of the restoration process we engaged the services of Meadors, Inc. who are generally considered to be the best historical restoration architects in the southeast in Charleston. They provided us with a 400 page prospectus detailing a complete restoration plan that was estimated to cost between 2.5 to 3 million dollars. At that point the diocese engaged the services of Preservation South Carolina to raise the money and when they withdrew from the project approximately one million and 200 thousand had been spent on the restoration effort. Do the math. We still have a long way to go, especially when you add the additional costs incurring in the deterioration in the rare stained glass windows. To Preservation South Carolina's credit, they did complete phases one and two of the projected restoration process which brought considerable stabilization to the old building's structure. The vestry will continue to consult with the diocese and the Meadors architects in the development of a formal plan to continue the completion of the restoration process. You will be advised as new plans develop.

Labyrinth Clean-up

There have been many people who have expressed concern that the scripture readings at the various stations at the labyrinth are no longer readable due to the deterioration of the signage. We are aware of the problem and are making efforts to repair legibility of the readings. The Elsner

Labyrinth has been a great asset to the ministry of this church and has received many visitors, both old and young people. Church buses frequently appear and are sometimes from as far away as fifty miles. Dr. Rob Elsner's new book, *Walking the Church Year*, is a good read on ways to best utilize a labyrinth and to receive the best spiritual benefit. Dr. Elsner, a former professor at Erskine College, played a major role in the development of our labyrinth and picture of our labyrinth appears in his book. During the time that Dr. Elsner was with us at Trinity, he brought many inspirational sermons from our pulpit. You may purchase a copy of Dr. Elsner's labyrinth guide at Barnes & Noble Publishers. If you are walking our labyrinth for the first time and are unsure of the process, you will find a helpful guide in the box attached to the tree at the entrance. The best example of how to receive a benefit from the use of a labyrinth was overheard recently in an exchange between two seven year olds when one said to the other: "My grandpa (a Pentecostal pastor) said it is a good place to have a little talk with Jesus about all your problems." Thank God for Grandpas. Amen!

Matthew 25

Matthew 25 is a very productive program in the diocese which allows persons in the parishes and missions to conceive and apply for grants to develop some new program that may benefit that church's ministry in a significant way. Many of the new programs developed in recent years have been for adults or children and have greatly contributed to the overall spiritual development of the parish. In the Matthew 25 Gospel, Jesus makes it clear how He expects us to love and care for the "least of these" and that our care for "these" is also a gift to Him. This program is ably managed for the diocese by the Reverend Deacon Mary Jeffers, who is the resident deacon to Grace Church. Give it some thought. If you

have an idea for a program for Trinity that would benefit adults or children, discuss it with Lewis or Cynthia for the application details and assistance.

Doors

Many of you have commented on the fresh look on the newly painted doors entering into the narthex, the nave and the sacristy. The rather expensive paint job was a gift to the church from Friends of Trinity. Trinity member, Steve Clark, is the chairman of the Friends of Trinity group. Thanks to "Friends" for the fresh, new look. Persons wishing to contribute to "Friends" may see Steve, Dick or Mike.

New Treasurer

Speaking of Mike, he has taken over the job as our new treasurer and is doing an excellent job. It is not an easy job and takes a lot of time. Thank you also to Ilona for all her faithful years as our church treasurer and other faithful service to this parish. Have a good rest, Ilona!

The Lord's Work

We are currently training new acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, (those who serve the chalice at the Mass), Eucharistic Visitors (those who carry Holy Communion to the home, hospital or nursing home), Lectors (those who read the Lessons at Mass), and Altar Guild (those who dress the altar for Mass, see Michele). If you think you have a calling to serve in any of these ministries, see Lewis.

Forward Day by Day

Your new editions of Forward Day by Day (May, June, July), daily devotions for disciples, are now available on the bench in the Lady Chapel, large print and pocket editions. You may also prefer to read the devotions from your phone which are available on the internet. Many of you have reported that these inspirational reading have made a real difference in your spiritual life and have brought you comfort and enhanced your faith.

Feast Days in May:

Saint Philip and Saint James

On May 1st, we celebrate the *Feast of Saint Philip and Saint James*. We know little about Saint James except that he was the son of Alphaeus; and that Jesus chose him as one of the 12 pillars of the New Israel, his Church. He is not the James of the *Acts of the Apostles*, brother of Jesus, later Bishop of Jerusalem and author of the *Letter of James*. James is known as James the Lesser to avoid confusing him with James, the son of Zebadee, also known as James the Greater. Philip came from the same town in Galilee as Peter and Andrew. Jesus called him directly, whereupon he sought out Nathaniel and told him about "the one about whom Moses wrote" (John 1:45). Like many of the other Apostles, Philip took a long time in coming to realize who Jesus really was. As in the case of the other Apostles, we see James and Philip as men who were selected by Jesus to become foundation stones for his Church, and we are reminded that holiness and its consequent apostolate are entirely a gift from God and not a matter of human accomplishment. "You will be clothed with power from on high," Jesus told Philip and the others. Their first commissions were to expel unclean spirits, heal the sick, and announce the Kingdom. They learned gradually that these special gifts were inferior sacraments of even a greater miracle inside their persons—the divine power to love like God.

Ascension Day

The *Feast of the Ascension* is one of the primary feasts of the Church and occurs on May 9th. It invariably falls forty days after Easter and commemorates the day of Jesus' return to Heaven at the end of his earthly ministry. Several years ago the Anglican Digest quoted from a remarkable sermon given by a remarkable 90-year-old priest at the Cathedral Church of Saint Luke and Saint Paul (Charleston). The old African-American priest wept as he preached and stated that this was such a happy day for Jesus. "He stayed with us for 30 years and at the end of his time here, he suffered a most horrible death to save our souls, and then, at last, he was able to go home, Alleluia!" *And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into Heaven. And they worshipped him and*

returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. (Luke 24:50-53.)

Rogation Sunday

Rogation Sunday, the sixth Sunday after Easter (May 5th), is the Sunday next before the three Rogation Days (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) which precede Ascension Day. The days are designed for prayer as a formal means for asking God for a good harvest, protection against natural disasters, forgiveness for sin, and a solemn preparation for the *Feast of the Ascension*. Interested persons may find the prayers for these days in the BCP on pages 207, 258 and 930. Notes on a traditional Rogation Procession may be found in the BOS on page 103.

Day of Pentecost

The *Feast of the Holy Spirit* is the third highest feast of the Church year after the Resurrection and the Nativity of our Lord; and this year occurs on May 19th. It is perhaps more frequently referred to as Pentecost; and in England as Whitsunday. This important day commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and the Blessed Mother. The color of the season, which lasts throughout the octave, is red, symbolizing the tongues of fire of the Holy Spirit which appeared to the great multitude assembled on the Day of Pentecost. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And they were confounded as each person heard the gospel in his own language. (Acts 2:1-6). Pentecost is often referred to as "the Birthday of the Church" and many church members always wear some garment that is red as a tribute to this important feast.

Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday commemorates the *Feast of the Holy Trinity* and is observed this year on the last Sunday in May (26th), and probably is ranked as the fourth highest feast in the Church year. This Sunday celebrates "the one and equal glory" of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit," in Trinity of Persons and Unity of Being." (BCP, p. 380.) The *Feast of the Holy Trinity* takes on a special significance in the Liturgical Churches because of the significant way it connects the three members of the God Head in the way that they relate and connect in the Holy Eucharist.

Trinity Sunday Picnic

Because we are Trinity Church, Trinity Sunday is our official feast day and we always celebrate the day with a picnic under the trees in the parish garden in which you people always present a delightful and delicious repast. We are all asked to bring some food item traditional to a southern picnic and you people are famous for making Trinity Sunday picnics very special. If you know someone that might like to join our parish, invite them to the Trinity Sunday service and picnic and just put a few extra beans in your pot and pray for a beautiful day. Hope to see all of you there.

The Visitation

On May 31st we celebrate the *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*. Mary left Nazareth at the end of March and went over the mountains to Hebron, south of Jerusalem, to visit her cousin, Elizabeth. At this time Elizabeth was pregnant with John the Baptist. Mary, likewise, was expecting with Jesus. When they met a miraculous event occurred which is recorded in the Gospel of Luke. On feeling the presence of the Divine Savior, John leaped in his mother's womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she spoke out with a loud voice, and said blessed art thou among women and blessed in the fruit of thy womb. The Blessed Mary now for the first time exercised the divine office which would be hers alone as the mother of the Incarnate Christ, the Son of God and Savior of the world. Joseph probably accompanied Mary to Hebron, returned to Nazareth, and after three months came back to take Mary home.

Other Special Days In May

Memorial Day and Armed Forces Day are also observed in May. These are not official feast days of the Church, but are special days to the American people. On Memorial Day we honor the memory of all military personnel who died while serving in the US armed forces. It is a day of mourning and somber reflection and thanksgiving for all those who paid the ultimate price to preserve our freedom and American way of life. It is not proper to wish someone a happy Memorial Day as it is officially a day of mourning and remembrance. Memorial Day is always observed on the last Monday in May. We also celebrate Armed Forces Day in May on the third Saturday (May 18th) to honor the men and women who are currently serving in each branch of the US military. To all of you who have proudly worn the uniform of our armed forces and protected our liberties, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. It is you who have made the USA the greatest democracy on the face of the earth. God Bless you and may God continue to Bless the USA. Amen.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MAY 2024

+ *This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24* +

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Eucharistic Lectionary Year B Office Lectionary Year 2			1 The Apostles Saint Philip and Saint James (Altar: Red)	2 Saint Athanasius Bishop, Theologian 373	3	4
5 6 th Easter 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rogation Sunday	6 Rogation Day V	7 Rogation Day V	8 Rogation V	9 ASCENSION DAY (Altar: White)	10	11
12 7 th Easter 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 Noon Vestry Meets MOTHER'S DAY	13	14	15	16	17	18 Armed Forces Day
19 PENTECOST 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist (Whitsunday)	20	21	22 Ember Day	23 First Book of Common Prayer 1549 W	24 Ember Day	25 Ember Day
26 TRINITY SUNDAY 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 Noon Parish Picnic	27 Memorial Day: God Bless our Native Land!	30	31 The Visitation Of The Blessed Virgin Mary. (Altar: White)	+ All Lessons and Readings are from the BCP and the Revised Common Lectionary.	Our Service Books: BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feasts and Fasts. The Hymnal 1982	

May 5, 2024 (Rogation Sunday)

Celebrant: Father Renegar
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Ruth
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Color: White
 1st Lesson: Acts 10:44-48
 Psalm: 98
 The Epistle: 1 John 5:1-6
 The Gospel: John 15:9-17

MAY 12, 2024 (7th Sunday Easter)

Celebrant: Pastor Wales
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Nancy Ann
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 Altar Color: White
 1st Lesson: Acts 1:15-17,21-26
 Psalm: 1
 The Epistle: 1 John 5:9-13
 The Gospel: John 17:6-19

VESTRY MEETS, Sunday, May 12th, immediately following Mass.

The Blessed Sacrament is the most perfect nourishment for the human soul.
 +Hope to see you at Mass+

May 19, 2024 (PENTECOST)

Celebrant: Rev. Peggy Muncie
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Ruth
 Acolyte: Mike
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Color: RED
 1st Lesson: Acts 2:1-21
 Psalm: 104:25-32,37
 The Epistle: Romans 8:22-27
 The Gospel: John 15:26-27;16:4b-15

May 26, 2024 (Trinity Sunday)

Celebrant: Father Flanagan
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Mary Anne
 Acolytes: Mike
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 Altar Color: White
 1st Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8
 Psalm: 29
 The Epistle: Romans 8:12-17
 The Gospel: John 34:1-17

MOTHER'S Day—May 12th

Thank you, Jesus, for all our dear mothers still with us; and a deep thanksgiving for all those who now rest in Thee. Amen.

Service Notes:

The Seasonal Blessing for Easter is found in the BOS, P. 14. The *Gloria in Excelsis* is sung or said at each Eucharist on weekdays through to *Pentecost*. For complete readings and collects for the Weekdays of the Easter Season, see pages 65-81 of LFF, 2006. The propers for the Rogation Days are found in the BCP, pages 207,258 and 930. Notes on a Rogation Procession may be found in the BOS, p. 113. The Seasonal Blessing for *Ascension Day* is found in the BOS, p.15. The old tradition was that the Paschal Candle was lit for the last time on *Ascension Day* and then returned to the baptistry; now the more prevalent tradition is that the Paschal Candle burns through the principal Mass on *Pentecost* and then leaves the High Altar. The Seasonal Blessing for the *Day of Pentecost* is found on page 16 of the BOS. Wednesday, Friday and Saturday of this week are Ember Days. The Collects for the Ember Days are found in the BCP, pages 205 and 256.

Trinity Episcopal Church

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

Our Mission Statement:

Joyfully proclaiming the love of Christ in worship, outreach, welcome and care.

Our Bishop

The Right Reverend Daniel Paul Richards
The IX Bishop

Our Vicar:

The Vicariate is currently vacant.

The Vestry:

Lewis Ashley, Senior Warden (24)
Charles Horton, Junior Warden (26)
Mary Lynn Lyle (24)
Charleen Clark (25)
Dick Haldeman (25)
Michael Clary (26)

Parish Administrator and Registrar:

Dick Haldeman

Treasurer:

Michael Clary

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

Altar Guild:

Michele Wells, Chairman
Ruth Freeman
Lewis Ashley
Susanne Bender Heinzerling

Lectors (Lay Readers):

Dick Haldeman
Ruth Freeman
Mary Anne Campbell
Nancy Ann Leonard
Charleen Clark

Acolytes:

Lewis Ashley
Charles Thomas Horton
Michael Clary
Ilona Anderson

Eucharistic Visitors:

Lewis Ashley
Cynthia Jefferies

Greeters/Ushers

Ilona Anderson
Henrietta Hudson

Children's Programs:

Jan Haldeman

Bulletins, Special Projects:

John Pullin

Sexton (Buildings & Grounds)

Buddy Wells

Diocesan Convention Delegation:

Cynthia Jefferies (Voting)
Dick Haldeman (Voting)
Lewis Ashley (Alternate)
Michael Clary (Alternate)

Thurifer (Censor):

Michael Clary

Newsletters:

Lewis Ashley

Sunday School/Bible Study:

Henrietta Hudson

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

Who are we??

We are pleased that some of our recent visitors are looking for a church home and are taking a close look at Trinity. Some have asked some questions about how the Episcopal Church operates and we will attempt to answer some of those questions here. A diocese is a geographical grouping of local congregations with a bishop as the chief pastor. The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina is made up of 61 congregations in 22 counties in upper South Carolina. This diocese is a part of the 2.1-million-member Episcopal Church. The Episcopal Church is a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion, 85 million members strong, evolving from our Mother Church, the Church of England. We are a diocese committed to renewal, sharing the Faith that has changed our lives and to increasing diversity among our ranks. In so doing, we celebrate and affirm the broad Anglican tradition which welcomes seekers, embraces inquiry and offers a wide variety of worship styles grounded and unified by the Liturgy in our *Book of Common Prayer*. Our diocesan mission statement is: *Making, Equipping and Sending Mature Disciples of Christ*. We are especially thankful for our own Trinity Church which for almost 200 years has been actively engaged in the propagation of the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the advancement of His Kingdom on this earth. If you are considering making Trinity your church home, know that you are welcome here. Please feel free to ask any questions you might have about the Episcopal Church and we will be pleased to help in any way we can. If you wish to be added to our mailing list for the newsletter, please give your name to Lewis, Cynthia or Ilona.

Letters From Our Friends:

Dear Editor:

I just had to write this letter. My family is recently moved to South Carolina from Canada and we are members of the Anglican Church of Canada and now live in Anderson. In a recent trip to Abbeville on a sunny Saturday afternoon, we had the pleasure to visit your beautiful church. It reminded us very much of England. There were about twenty visitors in the church who were walking about taking pictures, some lighting candles, with others just sitting looking at the stained glass and listening to the music. A mother came in holding the hand of her small child and they sat quietly near the organist. The beautiful little blond, blue-eyed boy walked up to the organist and asked if he could sing a song and the organist said, of course. He sang for us in his clear soprano voice the old revivalist hymn, *My Jesus, I Love Thee*. The attention of everyone in the church was immediately riveted toward the child and in just a few moments everyone in the church was in tears—a clear manifestation of the Holy Spirit. It was a powerful sermon in song. *My Jesus, I love Thee; I know Thou art mine. For Thee all the follies of sin I resign. My precious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou; if ever I loved Thee, My Jesus tis now*. Such an emotional afternoon, in a beautiful village in the American deep south; in a magnificent church and a wonderful encounter with the Holy Spirit in the innocent face of a beautiful child. *Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven.* (Matthew 19:14 KJV). We hope our daughter will want to be married in your lovely church. We will be back to visit soon. Thank you.

Reginald and Millicent Harrison
Anderson, South Carolina

Dear Reginald and Millicent:
Thank you for your beautiful letter and we hope you will visit us again soon. Please join us for Mass if you can. The Lord moves in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform. *Veni Spiritus Sancte. Amen.*
The Editor.

Glory to God whose power working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to Him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21, Office for Evening Prayer II, Book of Common Prayer, p. 126 +