



# The Abbeville Anglican



The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

Volume 17

SEPTEMBER 2023

Number 09

## Stained Glass Repair

In our last newsletter you were advised of a recent most generous bequest (\$10,000.00) from the Williams Family Trust. Mr. Roy Williams had visited Trinity on several occasions and was especially impressed with our Saturday Afternoons at Trinity Ministry which he described as an “innovative approach to evangelism.” The gift was restricted and must be used for the continued restoration process. The money will be used in conjunction with Friends of Trinity programming for the rehabilitation of Trinity’s extremely valuable and rare stained glass windows which are in a state of deterioration. The popular story which prevailed for almost one hundred years was that the glass was English and from a stained glass foundry near London. Many fanciful stories about the glass circulated for years that the glass arrived in this country while the Charleston harbor was under blockade by the north and that the windows had been brought to shore by daring blockade runners—perhaps even Rhett Butler! It was then learned, in the last few years, that all the glass is American and from the Gibson Stained Glass Studios in New York, the first people to do stained glass in this country. Gibson actually had a record of the order and shipping of the glass to Abbeville. The glass probably arrived sometime in 1859. Several years ago, a conservator from the Bovard Stained Glass Studios in Iowa came to Abbeville to evaluate the windows and commented on their uniqueness and great beauty; as do many visitors to Trinity. At that time they gave us an estimated repair cost at approximately \$200,000.00. That same conservator was back at Trinity recently to evaluate the repair costs again and stated he would send us a new estimate, but that it would probably substantially exceed the original estimate. The Bovard Stained Glass studios are among the best in the US and have repaired much of the glass

in the many of the famous historic churches in Charleston. We will keep you posted as this project develops.

## Hymn Sing Change

More than twenty years ago, Trinity presented its first community old-fashion hymn sing which featured mostly the old and much revered hymns which no longer appeared in the modern church hymnals. That first hymn sing drew more than 200 singers from Anderson, Abbeville, Greenville and Greenwood counties and many visitors from across the river in Georgia. The hymn sing always occurred on the last Sunday in September, usually on the Sunday closest to the *Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels*. The annual event continued as a popular community program until it was discontinued during the pandemic. We have revived the program for the past two years, but have decided that as the attendance is down, we will continue the program now every other year. Therefore, the next hymn sing will occur on the last Sunday in September in 2024. The program was dear to the hearts of many of the singers as it was an opportunity to sing again many of those wonderful old hymns they had sung with their mothers and grandmothers. The last hymn on the program was always the most widely sung hymn in the world—*Amazing Grace*; and when the plaintive voice of the bagpipes joined in the last verse, many of the singers were overcome with emotion and started to cry. It was always a beautiful time at Trinity and we hope the time change will facilitate a larger attendance. Please make your plans to attend and bring your friends.

## Abbeville Holistic Expo

In August of 2022, Abbeville experienced its first ever Holistic Expo, an exhibition of local practitioners and vendors united by a holistic approach to healthy living. The term holistic means whole and a holistic community understands that good health

takes place beyond a few visits to the doctor’s office. It includes how we move and how we eat, our self-image and how we care for ourselves, and even where we can go to pray. The expo will attempt to teach us with its various exhibits and teaching programs more effective ways to develop a more healthy physical and psychologically sound individual with an accurate and an appropriate healthy self-concept. Expo exhibits and practitioners will be assembled in the Livery Stable on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> to present holistic products and presentations. Trinity will participate in the Expo theme by inviting our Saturday visitors to participate in centered prayer and devotional readings at the Labyrinth. We also will encourage and facilitate a relaxed and contemplative environment in the church for our visitors to have quiet music, prayer time and the opportunity to light a meditation candle. As always our Saturday mission will be to have our visitors leave the church with a feeling of joy, hope and the sense of self-actualization.

## Special Church Supper

Trinity members are invited to a parish supper on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the parish house. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite salad as a contribution to the supper—tossed salad, chicken salad, potato salad, tuna fish, Caesar, fruit salad—whatever you like. Some of you might have some interesting surprises for us. We will also talk about some of the church’s financial needs for the future and distribute the 2024 pledge cards. Several years ago, at a similar event, we asked members to comment on any special memories they had of the church and what old Trinity has meant to them throughout the years. Give that some thought and share with us all how Trinity has blessed you in your life and faith. Many of our Saturday visitors have written us about how Trinity has blessed them in so many ways. Please make your plans to be with us at this fun event.

## Feast Days in September:

### Holy Cross Day

We celebrate the *Feast of the Holy Cross* on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The feast is known as the *Exultation of the Cross* in the Eastern Church; and is known as the *Triumph of the Cross* in the Roman Catholic Church. It was one of the twelve great feasts in the Byzantine Liturgies. In most of the Anglican Communion, the feast is called *Holy Cross Day*, a name also used in the Lutheran Church. The September 14<sup>th</sup> feast is the titular feast of the *Congregation of the Holy Cross* and the Episcopal Church's *Order of the Holy Cross*. The cross has long been considered one of the most potent icons of mankind and has been for centuries the primary symbol of the Christian Faith. It is interesting that even in the lowest Episcopal churches, the worshippers do not look upon the cross as it moves in processions, but bow their heads as it passes. Of course, in the High Church worshippers go to their knees as the cross passes. *In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story, gathers round its head sublime. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.* Amen. (Hymn 441, The Hymnal 1982).

### Saint Matthew

We observe the *Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist* on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Matthew was one on the major apostles and one of the four evangelists. According to the New Testament he was a witness to the Resurrection and the Ascension. Before being called to ministry by Jesus, Matthew collected taxes from the Hebrew people for Herod Antipas, the tetrarch of Galilee. His tax office was located in Capernaum. Jews who became rich in such a fashion were despised and thought of as outcasts. However as a tax collector he would have been literate in Greek and Aramaic. Matthew forsook his tax collecting business to follow Jesus and would become one of his most effective followers, preachers and writers. It was at a dinner at Matthew's house the scribes and the Pharisees criticized Jesus for eating with tax collectors and sinners. This prompted Jesus to answer: *I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance* (Mark 2:17). Later, church fathers such as Clement of Alexandria and Ireneaus, claimed that Matthew preached the Gospel in Hebrew for fifteen years to the Jewish community in Judea, before going to other mission fields. The

first of the Synoptic Gospels is technically anonymous, but most often attributed to Matthew. Many ancient and modern scholars have stated that Matthew originally wrote his Gospel in Hebrew, but still regard the Greek text as canonical. Matthew is regarded as a saint in the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Anglican and Lutheran Churches. After many years of evangelism, the saint was martyred Ethiopia defending the Christian Faith.

### Michaelmas

*Michaelmas* is another name for the *Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels* and occurs in the western Christian calendar on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Because it falls near the equinox, it has become associated in the northern hemisphere with the beginning of autumn and the shortening of days. In medieval England, *Michaelmas* marked the beginning and end of the husbandman's year when the harvest was over, and the bailiff or reeve of the manor would be making out the accounts for the year. Michael is the best known of all the archangels and is best remembered for defeating Lucifer (also an archangel) in Heaven's great war of the angels. He is the principal warrior angel and will lead the armies of Christ in the last great battle of Armageddon. Michael is also seen as the protector against the dark of night, and curator of cosmic intelligence. In the middle ages, *Michaelmas* was celebrated as a Holy Day of obligation, but this tradition was abolished in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The Lutheran Church lists *Michaelmas* as a principal *Feast of Christ*. In the Anglican and Episcopal Church we tend to recognize at least four archangels: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel. The Catholic Church names several more.

### Saint Francis

Like many Catholic and Anglican Churches in the US, we will observe the *Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi* on October 8<sup>th</sup> with the *Blessing of the Animals*. The actual feast day is Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. This ancient feast commemorates the life of Saint Francis who was an Italian friar and deacon in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and is the Catholic Church's patron saint of animals and the environment. The *Blessing of the Animals* at Trinity is one of our most popular annual programs and usually draws a large number of visitors from other churches. We mention this feast a little early so you can begin inviting your friends and making plans to bring your best friend who

may be on four legs. As is our custom, the blessing will in the parish garden at 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Expect full details in the October issue.

### Farewells

August was a sad time at Trinity as we had to say farewell to two of our dear friends in the congregation; Father Ames Swartsfager and his lovely wife Judy quickly became favorites at Trinity when they joined our congregation while we were still out of our church and remanded to the parish house. Father Ames said Mass on many occasions and his sermons were a delight and he always gave us, at least one good laugh. Although bound to his wheelchair due to illness, he was always upbeat and told wonderful stories about his many years with the US Bureau of Prisons where was a chaplain. His popular book, *Letters From Prison*, recounted many of his adventures. Father was fluent in Spanish and had served several parishes in Central and South America. When he retired, his and Judy's life really took on an element of adventure as they lived on their comfortable boat, *The Butterfly*, and sailed the ocean blue. Other of his books recount many of their adventures at sea. We are so thankful to God for those years we enjoyed with Father Swartsfager. When he met Jesus, I am sure the Master said: "well done thou good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:21) Amen. Our love always to Judy. In August, we also lost our dear friend Freda, wife of Hank our Bible Study teacher and former Junior Warden. Freda was a delight to know and a lady of great charm and kindness. She will be greatly missed and fondly remembered. May the Lord Jesus hold Freda and Hank in His embrace. Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. Amen. (BCP, p. 499).

### Thank You!

A sincere thank you to Father Mike Schnatterly for months of beautiful celebrations of the Holy Eucharist, wonderful sermons and so many other kindnesses he brought to this parish during the time he was with us. He was a great blessing to us during the time he was here and we wish him the best in his new endeavors. During the time that Father was here, he greatly increased the ASA (Average Sunday Attendance). Father Schnatterly's next celebration with us will be the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

*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 A  Office Lectionary Year 1	<b>Our Service Books:</b> BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feasts and Fasts The Hymnal 1982	Weekday Eucharistic Readings for use throughout the year are found in LFF, 2006, pages 498-528			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 14 Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>4</b>  Labor Day	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 15 Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 12:00 Noon Vestry Meets	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  HOLY CROSS DAY (Altar: Red)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 16 Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Ember Day	<b>21</b>  Saint Matthew Apostle And Evangelist (Altar: Red)	<b>22</b> Ember Day	<b>23</b> Ember Day
<b>24</b> 17 Pentecost 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Saint Michael And All Angles (Altar: White)	<b>30</b>

**September 3, 2023 (Proper 17)**

Celebrant: Father Flanagan  
Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
Lector: Dick  
Acolyte: Andrew  
Altar Guild: Michele  
Altar Color: Green  
1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Exodus 3:1-15  
Psalm: 105:1-6,26-45,45c  
The Epistle: Romans 12:9-21  
The Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

**September 10, 2023 (Proper 18)**

Celebrant: Father Flanagan  
Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
Lector: Charleen  
Acolyte: Andrew  
Altar Guild: Myra  
Altar Color: Green  
1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Exodus 12:1-14  
Psalm : 149  
The Epistle: Romans 13:8-14  
The Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

The Vestry will meet at 12:00 Noon, September 10<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the Mass.

**Dominus Vobiscum—et cum spiritu tuo!**  
The Lord be with you and with your spirit.  
Amen

**September 10, 2023 (Proper 19)**

Celebrant: Father Renegar  
Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
Lector: Ruth  
Acolyte: Andrew  
Altar Guild: Michele  
Altar Color: Green  
1<sup>st</sup> Lesson : Genesis 45 :1-15  
Psalm: 133  
The Epistle: Romans 11:1-2a,29-32  
The Gospel: Matthew 15:10-12

**September 24, 2023 (Proper 20)**

Celebrant: To be announced  
Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
Lector: Mary Anne  
Acolytes: Andrew  
Altar Guild: Lewis  
Altar Color: Green  
1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Exodus 1:8-2:10  
Psalm: 124  
The Epistle: Romans 12:1-8  
The Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Excellent Bible Study with Hank every Sunday, 10:00 am, parish house. Great lessons and discussion. You are invited.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.  
(Psalm 51:10 KJV).

**The Mission of the Church:**

The Mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace and love. The Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members. From an Outline of the Faith, commonly called the *Catechism* + BCP, p. 855.

**Prayer for the Mission of the Church:**

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to know you through your Son, Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. BCP, p. 816.

**What are Ember Days?—See calendar**

Ember days are three days which occur four times a year, the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after St Lucy's Day (Dec. 13), Ash Wednesday, Day of Pentecost and Holy Cross Day (Sept. 14). The name comes for the Latin title *Quattuor tempora* meaning "four times." The days became occasions for ordination for which the Christian community prayed and the candidates prepared themselves by prayer and retreat. See BCP pp. 256-257, 929.

## **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:**

Cynthia Jefferies, Senior Warden (23)  
Mary Lynn Lyle, Junior Warden (24)  
Lewis Ashley (24)  
Charleen Clark (25)  
Ilona Anderson (23)  
Dick Haldeman (25)

### **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  
Charleen Clark

### **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 (In Memorium)

### **Children's Programs:**

Jan Haldeman

### **Bulletins, Special Projects:**

John Pullin

### **Sexton (Buildings & Grounds):**

Buddy Wells

### **Diocesan Convention Delegation:**

Lewis Ashley (voting)  
Mike Clary (voting)  
Cynthia Jefferies, Alternate  
Dick Haldeman, Alternate

### **Newsletters:**

Lewis Ashley

### **Sunday School/Bible Study:**

Hank Baggett

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

## **Letters from our Friends:**

Dear Trinity Church:

For the month of July, I left my home in Canada and spent the whole month in your beautiful South Carolina. Although Abbeville was not on our agenda, it caught our fancy as we drove through and we stopped and spent almost a whole day there. It is quintessentially American deep south and while we were eating our hotdogs at the Rough House, I kept waiting for Scarlett O'Hara to come through the door. Your beautiful parish church really caught my attention. It was a weekday, but one of the ladies in the garden center said I could call the number on the gate and someone would let us in to see the church. It was stunning and actually a spiritual and emotional experience for me to be there. The guy who let us in just happened to be one of the church organists. When I told him that I had been a professor of voice performance at the Canadian Conservatory of Music in Toronto, he asked me to sing something and I asked him what could I sing that would pay proper homage to your beautiful church. He asked me to sing from your hymnal the beautiful setting of the 84<sup>th</sup> psalm, *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*. He graciously invited me to come back to Abbeville sometime with some of my former students and present a sacred music concert. I would really like to do that. All of South Carolina is beautiful, but my visit to Trinity was special. As I left your church on that afternoon and took one last look, the last thing I saw was the magnificent picture of the Christ Jesus in the chancel window and saying: "Thank you, Jesus. How lovely is thy dwelling place!"  
Anna Bryce Hastings Ph.D.

Dear Dr. Hastings:

We very much enjoyed your visit to Trinity and hope you will consider coming back sometime to sing for us and this community. Your voice is wonderful and an inspiration. It is always nice to have visits from our

Canadian cousins. Old Trinity is truly a special place and we very much enjoy sharing it with our many visitors.

Editor.

Dear Mr. Lewis:

My grandpa is helping me write this letter so I can thank you for taking me and my brother up stairs so we could ring the bell. My grandpa's legs are too old. We really liked ringing the bell. I was upset because the car had hit my dog, Buster and he was in the hospital. You said we could go to the back and pray for Buster and light a candle. Buster is now well and back to his old self. I really liked the window you showed me that talked about how Jesus loved the little children like me. I love Jesus too. Grandpa said we can come back again someday and ring the bell again. Thank you.  
Robbie, Austin, Buster, Grandpa.

Dear Robbie:

I am so happy that you, Austin and Grandpa came to see us at Trinity. I am also so happy that Buster is ok. Come back to see us soon and we will all sing Jesus Loves Me again. Keep Buster out of the road. Lewis.

FYI: Robbie is a very bright seven-year-old. His grandfather is a Pentecostal Pastor and was somewhat apprehensive about praying and lighting a prayer candle for a dog. I assured the pastor that Jesus would be ok with that. All praise be to that loving Jesus who let that little boy have his dog back.

### **101<sup>st</sup> Diocesan Convention**

In accordance with Title I: Canon 31a of the Diocesan Canons, the official "call to convention for the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina" has been issued by Dr. Nora Grimball, Secretary to the Convention. The 101<sup>st</sup> annual convention will sit at Christ Church Parish (Greenville) on November 10-11, 2023 and will be hosted by the congregation. The business of the convention will be to elect new members to the boards, committees, Diocesan Executive Commission, to consider and effect canonical changes and, most importantly, the creation of the 2024 Statement of Mission—the budget for running the diocese. If you would like to attend the convention as an observer, see the Senior Warden. Your delegation will be Lewis and Mike as voting delegates and Dick and Cynthia as alternates. If you would like to represent Trinity as an official delegate at a future diocesan convention let Cynthia know as the 2024 delegation will be elected at the 2023 annual meeting in December. It can actually be very interesting to attend a diocesan convention and an opportunity to meet new people and get to know the people who manage your diocese.