



The Abbeville Anglican



The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

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Restoration Continues

For the past several months we have seen considerable progress in the overall restoration process and have been extremely pleased with our ability to enjoy our regular Sunday services in our church building while the work continues. The scaffolding remains in place as we await the final work to be completed on the steeple and the new shingles to be installed. We are doing the best we can to provide the best possible clean environment for the church services but a number of things are still out of place and there is a lot of dust. That cannot be prevented as long as the sawing continues inside the nave on a weekly basis. Please bear with the process and everything will return to normal in due course. We will do a complete industrial cleaning when the work on the steeple is finished.

Easter at Trinity

With all the constraints provided by the continuing pandemic and problems associated with the construction process, Trinity was able to present a very active and beautiful Easter season. Holy Week provided a service of Tenebrae on Wednesday, the Liturgy for Maundy Thursday, two services on Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. All of this culminated with a beautiful high Easter Mass on Easter Sunday. These services were well attended by Trinity members and occasional visitors. Thank you to all of you, priests and laity, who worked so hard to make this a beautiful Easter season at Trinity.

Changes at Preservation S.C.

As most of you are aware, our restoration process has been managed by Preservation South Carolina under the guidance of its Executive Director, Michael Bedenbaugh. Mr. Bedenbaugh is the founding director of the preservation organization and has been active in the saving and restoration of many valuable and

historic buildings throughout all of South Carolina. Michael has recently announced that he will be leaving Preservation South Carolina at the end of this month to pursue the full time management of a family business. At Trinity we very much appreciate all the interest and help he invested in the Trinity project and wish him well in his new endeavor. We expect that PSC will continue to be involved in the overall Trinity restoration, but at this writing have not been given any information from PSC or the diocese. The overall Trinity restoration was projected at an estimated cost of three million dollars. At Trinity we are very proud of the fact that this very small parish was able to provide approximately \$600,000.00 from our endowment and the very generous gift of an anonymous donor to the church. None of these funds were provided by PSC or the diocese. However, Preservation SC has also raised considerable funding from grants gifts and other resources which will bring the total investment at this point to well over a million dollars. We must continue to do whatever we can to encourage donations to Trinity as we still have a long way to go.

Newsletter Status

We regret the inconvenience that has been caused by the absence of the newsletter for the past several months. The Editor entered the hospital for a routine procedure in February and expected to be home the next day. Complications developed and he was hospitalized for nearly 20 days and is still recovering from the experience. You will also remember that our readers were advised in the October issue that those persons who had produced the newsletter for the past twelve years wished to retire and the December issue would be the last, but we did manage to get out some additional issues prior to the illness of the editor. Since that time, many of you have stated that you find the monthly

information useful and wish the publication to be continued. At this point the continuation of the newsletter remains in doubt. It was hoped that there might be someone in the congregation who might wish to take on the project, but that does not appear to be the case. We will keep you posted.

Farewells

We regret very much that we will be losing our members and great friends the Elsners who will be moving to Alabama at the end of May. Dr. Elsnar has been appointed to an excellent new post at Samford University near Birmingham where he will be undertaking the development of some important new programs there. We have especially enjoyed and appreciated their many contributions to Trinity. Rob and Sam have brought us some wonderful preaching and the whole family made a major and substantial contribution of planning and work on Trinity's new labyrinth which is being well accepted in the community. We wish them the very best in Alabama and will miss them very much. May the Lord bless and keep them.

Altar Flowers

We are struggling to always have the High Altar properly adorned with beautiful flowers every Sunday to contribute to the overall environment for worship. Any person wishing to make a financial contribution or donate flowers directly from their garden would be greatly appreciated. Flowers are too expensive for the church to purchase each Sunday. When we have flowers, we prefer to have them in place by Saturday afternoon when Altar Guild persons may assist you. You may also contact Lewis who is our Saturday afternoon greeter and he will be happy to help.

You are invited to join us for lunch on Trinity Sunday, our official Feast day, May 30th, at the Belmont Inn, to immediately follow Mass.

Feast Days in May:

Saint Philip and Saint James

On May 1st, we celebrate the *Feast of Saint Philip and Saint James*. We know practically nothing 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, son of Alphaeus, is also known as James the Lesser, to avoid confusing him with James the son of Zebedee, 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 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 human 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 from power on high” (Luke 24:49), 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 important sacraments of an even greater miracle inside their persons—almost a divine power to love like God.

Ascension Day

The Feast of the Ascension is one of the primary feasts of the church year and occurs this year on May 13th. It invariably falls 40 days after Easter and commemorates 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 90-year-old priest at the Cathedral of Saint Luke and Saint Paul (Charleston). The African-American priest wept as he preached and stated that this was such a happy day for Jesus. “He stayed with us for thirty years and at the end of his time with us, he suffered the 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. Amen (Luke 24:50-53, KJV).

Day of Pentecost

The Day of Pentecost, also known as *Whitsunday*, occurs 50 days after Easter. It is the *Feast of the Holy Spirit* and is generally considered to be the third highest feast of the church year. Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and the Church and is often referred to in theological writings as the “birthday of the Church.” The dramatic writings of the first Pentecost are described in the second chapter of the *Acts of the Apostles*. *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from Heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested upon each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.* Now there were devout Jews from everywhere in the world living in Jerusalem and each heard the Apostles speaking in his own language. Pentecost is a Holy Day of obligation and we are expected to receive the Blessed Sacrament always on Pentecost when possible. On Pentecost in the Episcopal Church, both men and women, usually wear some article of clothing which is red to pay silent homage to the Holy Spirit who is our Comforter. Many visitors to Trinity through the years have commented on how strongly they have felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in our church and we thank God for this grace. This year we observe the *Day of Pentecost* on May 23rd.

Rogation Sunday

Rogation Sunday, the sixth Sunday after Easter (May 9th) is the Sunday next before the three Rogation Days which come before *Ascension Day*. These are days designed for prayer for the years’ crops and solemn preparation by abstinence and fasting for the *Feast of the Ascension*. Farmers often had their crops blessed by a priest at this time. A common feature of Rogation Days in former times was the ceremony of “beating the bounds” in which a procession of parishioners, the priest, the church wardens and acolytes would process around the boundary of the parish and pray for its protection in the forthcoming year. Interested persons may find the pro-

pers 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.

Trinity Sunday

We celebrate Trinity Sunday (the *Feast of the Holy Trinity*) on May 30th. Depending on the date of Easter, the rather long Trinity Season varies in length from 22 to 27 Sundays. Trinity Sunday introduces the second half of the Christian year, which concerns the life and work of the Church and her members under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Although the Altar color for Trinity Sunday is white, green is used for the remainder of the season which continues until Advent. Trinity Sunday is our official Feast Day and this year, instead of a picnic, you are invited to join us for a lovely lunch at the Belmont Inn immediately following Mass. Hope to see you there.

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin

On May 31st, we celebrate the *Feast 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 Jesus. When they met a miraculous event occurred which is recorded in Luke (1:39-57). Feeling the presence of his divine Savior, John leapt in his mother’s womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke out with a loud voice, and said, *Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb.* The Blessed Mary now for the first time exercised the office which would be uniquely be hers as the one to be the mother of the Incarnate Christ, the Savior of the world. Joseph probably accompanied Mary to Hebron, returned to Nazareth, and after three months came to take Mary home.

The Song of Mary (The Magnificat)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. My spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor upon his lowly servant. From this day forth all generations will call me blessed: The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and he has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.
Lukę 1:46-55, Evening Prayer II, BCP p. 119

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MAY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Eucharistic Lectionary Year B Office Lectionary Year 1	Our Service Books: BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feasts and Fasts	All Lessons and Readings from the Revised Common Lectionary.				1 Saint Philip and Saint James Altar: Red
2 5th Easter 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 6th Easter 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist (Mother's Day)	10 Rogation Day	11 Rogation Day	12 Rogation Day	13 Ascension Day (Altar: White)	14	15
16 7th Easter 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 PENTECOST (Altar: Red)	24	25	26	27	28	29
----- -30 TRINITY Sunday (Altar: White)	----- 31 Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary					

May 2, 2021 (5th Easter)
 Celebrant: Father Tucker
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Dick
 Acolyte: Andrew
 Altar Guild: Michele
 Altar Colors: White
 1st Lesson: Acts 8: 26-40
 Psalm: 22: 24-30
 The Epistle: I John 4: 7-21
 The Gospel: John 15: 1-8

May 9, 2021 (6th Easter)
 Celebrant: Father Tucker
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lecter: Betty
 Acolyte: Andrew
 Altar Guild: Myra
 Altar Colors: White
 1st Lesson: Acts 10: 44-48
 Psalm: 98
 The Epistle: 1 John 5: 1-6
 The Gospel: John 15: 9-17

VESTRY MEETING:
 Sunday, May 9th, to immediately follow the Eucharist.

May 16, 2021 (7th Easter)
 Celebrant: Mother Alice Haynes
 Eucharistic Minister: Dick
 Lector: Mary Anne
 Acolyte: Andrew
 Altar Guild: Myra
 Altar Colors: White
 1st Lesson: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
 Psalm: 1
 The Epistle: 1 John 5: 9-13
 The Gospel: John 17: 6-19

May 23, 2021 (PENTECOST)
 Celebrant: Mother Alice Haynes
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Ruth
 Acolyte: Andrew
 Altar Guild: Ruth
 Altar Colors: Red
 1st Lesson: Acts 2: 1-21
 Psalm: 104: 25-35, 37
 The Epistle: Romans 8: 22-27
 The Gospel: John 15: 26-27

We all look forward to Homilies from Dr. Elsner. He will be our preacher on May 2nd and May 9th.

May 30, 2021 (Trinity Sunday)
 Celebrant: Mother Alice Haynes
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis
 Lector: Dick
 Acolyte: Andrew
 Altar Guild: Lewis
 Altar Colors: White
 1st Lesson: Isaiah 6: 1-8
 Psalm: 29
 The Epistle: Romans 8: 12-17
 The Gospel: John 3: 1-17

Happy Birthday

May 05—Jennie

May 30—Roger

Before Mass:
 We quietly speak to God.
During Mass:
 We listen as God quietly speaks to us.
After Mass:
 We greet and chat with friends.

The Lord blees thee and keep thee.
 The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen.
 Numbers 6:24-26

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
Rob Elsner
Sam Elsner

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
Rob Elsner
Sam Elsner

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.

Thank you, Jesus

It is probably appropriate to reflect at Eastertide on those many people who have reported special blessings and graces received in their lives from their experiences with Trinity in its almost two hundred years of ministry. We have received numerous letters and have many reports of these special blessings. For its entire history, Trinity has been a beacon to the Faith to thousands of people who have been casually walking down Trinity Street and have not been able to resist entering the church for a quiet time of reflection and prayer. There have been many young brides who had no connection to Abbeville or the Episcopal Church, but just had to have their wedding in our church. Over the years we have received literally thousands of visitors on Saturday afternoons who have come to say a prayer, light a candle, sing a favorite hymn, or just sit and watch the sun play in the stained glass. It is an adventure in itself just to read through Trinity's guest register and see entries like the lady from London who wrote: "I have been looking for something for a long time and found it today in this beautiful and quiet place. Thank you!" Or the young teen who simply wrote: "KOOL!" The Lord has always worked in mysterious ways his wonders to perform and we are so pleased that it has pleased Him to use Trinity in many of his blessings to his people. We have received the following email about two years ago which speaks for itself. It is just another example of how people have found solace and hope at Trinity at times of trouble and despair in their personal lives.

Dear Trinity Church Friends:

Several years ago, my father, a presbyter in the Church of Scotland spent a sabbatical year in Greenville preaching and leading seminars on centered prayer. My mother had recently died and he did not want to be away from me for a year, so he brought me with him to beautiful South Carolina. At this time in my life I was troubled, agnostic and angry at God for taking my mother. My father was scheduled to preach at a large Presbyterian church in Abbeville and we came over on a Saturday afternoon. Some kind of spring festival was going on and the town was full of people. When my father looked down Trinity Street and saw Trinity Church, he was intrigued that it looked so English and

we walked down to see the church. When we entered the church was full of visitors; was beautiful and resplendent in spring flowers and the altar in the Lady Chapel was aglow in candlelight from where people had said their prayers. The organ and violin were playing softly and a young priest was singing the beautiful setting of the 84th psalm, "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place." When the musicians took a break, the organist and the violinist walked about greeting the visitors and finally came over to greet me. They were very caring people and made me feel comfortable. When the priest joined us and the conversation continued, the violin lady asked if they could pray for me. She was clearly concerned as she had perceived my troubled spirit. Her prayer was powerful and the Holy Spirit overtook my very being and raised me to an unimaginable state of joy, peace and reconciliation. May Christ be praised! We returned to Scotland at the end of the year and I soon began my studies at the University of Aberdeen and completed my degree. After considerable prayer and contemplation, I began my theological studies at the Anglican seminary and am now a priest and vicar of a small parish in Aberdeen. I am anxious to visit Trinity again one day with my wife and daughter. I am able to get your newsletter on the internet and have prayed often for Trinity and your restoration success. I left Trinity that day with the joy of the Lord in my heart. I remember that the last thing I saw upon leaving the church was the lovely picture of the Redeemer in the stained glass above the High Altar and thinking "how lovely is thy dwelling place."

Ian Frasier
Aberdeen, Scotland

Dear Father:

May Christ be praised! We thank God for you, your ministry, and that it pleased Him to give you a special blessing at Trinity. We look forward to your visit. The lovely violin lady who prayed for you (Susan) is now with the Savior. Dominus Vobiscum. Editor

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is May 9th. We wish a happy Mother's Day to all our dear mothers still with us; and offer our sincere thanksgiving and gratitude for our mothers who now rest peacefully with Jesus. Our thoughts and prayers remain with all those people who have recently lost their mothers in the pandemic. May the peace of the Lord be with them all.

Other Special Days

In May we also celebrate Memorial Day (31st) and Armed Forces Day (15th). These are not feast days of the Church, but are important in the minds of the American people. On Armed Forces Day we honor those currently serving in the US military and on Memorial Day we remember those who paid the ultimate price in losing their lives in the defense of the Republic. On Veterans Day we honor all persons for their service to protect and preserve our way of life in the greatest democracy in the history of the world. To all of you who served to protect our freedom in this "land of the free and home of the brave," you have our deepest gratitude!! May God continue to bless our native land.
