

Volume 6

June, 2016



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Trinity Times News of Trinity Church

## Words from the Senior Warden

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### The Lord be with you.....And also with you.

I can imagine early Christians using this greeting to signal to one another that they were part of something bigger than themselves. Perhaps it was a secret greeting to see if they were safe and among friends. When I hear these words, it immediately brings a calming feeling which is hard to describe, part welcome, part affirming, part comforting, part forgiveness. Above all, it seems to me that it is acceptance no matter who you are.

Change is a constant in each of our lives, and indeed throughout the world, we've all heard this for years. Change is nothing new. For those of us of a certain age, what is new is the rate of change and it's apparent ever increasing pace. At times it is overwhelming leaving us with a feeling that things are out of control. This perception, that things are out of control, is likely not reality-but it sure feels like it! Acceptance of change can be challenging. We are ok with change as long as it is someone else who has to change!

Every organization I have ever been part of, whether it be social, volunteer, work or church, has been in some sort of transition and it always seems disruptive while in the midst of whatever is changing. Often there is a confluence of forces churning making it even more confusing. But when we look back, with the benefit of 20/20 hindsight, where we wind up is likely where we were meant to be. We just had to get through it.

Being open to experiencing newness or something different can be a growth opportunity. Some of the speed bumps to growth often come from within. We use phrases like "we don't do it that way" or "we tried that years ago and it didn't work" are not so subliminal messages that can stifle creativity and finding better or new solutions. Instead of putting up the barrier of "we don't or we tried that" I would encourage us to think more broadly and take a step back and ask ourselves: *What is the problem or challenge we are trying to address and is there a benefit to trying something different, what are the risks or challenges and how can they be minimized. If what was tried before didn't work, what were the lessons learned and how can we improve?"*

We are human, we have feelings, opinions, likes and dislikes. We are more comfortable with the known than the unknown-that is very rational. But when we seek common ground and open ourselves up to the possibilities we are changing, we are more accepting and we are adapting to a NEW NORMAL.

Let us go forth to serve the Lord. Halleluiah, Halleluiah!

*Peter Gonze*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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### June Birthdays

3 Abigail Alice Cortez  
4 Hailee Passno  
5 Brigitte Adele Girard  
5 Fr. Bob Criste-Troutman  
19 Jan Anglemire  
19 Bill Herling  
22 Chandanie Baboolal  
29 Nancy Killpatrick



### June Anniversaries

9 James & Becky Hendricks  
18 Bill & Kathie Herling

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

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## June Calendar of Events

June 1 - Trinity at Food Pantry, 8:30 a.m. - Noon  
June 11 - Book/Media Sale, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
June 12 - Vestry Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Library  
June 13 - Trinity Crafters, 10:30 a.m. - Noon, Library  
June 17 - Newsletter Deadline for Information  
June 24 - Newsletter Mailing  
June 25 - Popcorn & Movie Night, 5:00 p.m., Library  
June 27 - Trinity Crafters, 10:30 a.m. - Noon, Library  
July 31 - Annual Parish Picnic, Noon - 5:00 p.m.  
"The Roof" Paradise Township Park

# Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

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You really can't say it enough. Such powerful words and yet often overlooked.

I want to recognize some recent efforts and since these are dedicated to "unsung" heroes, no names will be used (my fear is that I would leave someone out, and anyway you know who you are!!).

- To the folks who on short notice readied the Parish hall and the church for Neil's memorial service.
- To all the people who immediately mobilized and arranged for food and refreshments for the service (and for coffee hour after all the Sunday services).
- To the hard workers who cleaned the church in advance of the Bishop's visit, vacuuming, polishing doing a high wire act to change the bulbs on the rafters. (Boy was that an act of faith!)
- To the children who made the welcome banner to the Bishop and for making the Parish Hall alive with color and paintings.
- To the inclusive Choir and Choirmaster.
- To team that pulled weeds, used rakes and blowers and chain saws to re-open the labyrinth.
- To the Family Promise & the Food Pantry volunteers.
- To the Alter Guild and Worship Committee.
- To those that bring the Eucharist to folks who cannot come to church
- To the Vestry members who donate their time and talents to help guide and direct our Parish home.

To all the unsung, unseen heroes who make "stuff" happen at Trinity, no names are needed because you do it not for recognition, but for Glory to God.

## Treasurer's Brief Report

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No numbers...just a description!

Through the end of April, we are on track with our 2016 Annual Budget. The budget was built to have a break even bottom line to change course from huge losses, requiring withdrawals from our DIT fund. Total contributions are on budget. Non pledge giving and plate contributions have been generous helping to offset the Pledge contributions which are slightly behind budget. Expenses are tracking as expected, so with one third of the year completed, we appear heading towards our goal of a balanced budget. Detailed financials are posted on the bulletin board.

A very key assumption in our 2016 budget was a reduction in our commitment to the Diocese of Bethlehem for our Assessment. On behalf of the Vestry a letter was sent to the Diocesan Council requesting a significant reduction to our Assessment so that we could balance the budget and complete the transition from a full time Priest in Charge to a long term Supply/Interim Priest. This change would allow us to have a retired minister for Sunday services and also for some office time during the week. The benefit to us of a retired Priest is that we don't have to pay medical or Pension contributions.

I am pleased to report that the Council has reviewed our request and approved the reduction for 2016. Assuming we have the same level of contributions in 2017, we expect to have not only a balanced budget with a part time Priest but also we can invest in our music program. The Diocesan Council approval to reduce our Assessment is a vote of confidence in our Parish, the people and the programs...it is a vote of confidence in YOU!

# Accepting Donations....

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## Accepting Donations for the Repair of a Stain Glass Window in the Sanctuary

We need to repair one of the windows in the church. The estimate from a reputable restorer is \$1,900. Beginning now we are seeking donations to go toward the repair of the window. As donations are received they will go into a restricted account and the donations collected will ONLY be used to repair the window.

If you are so moved, any donations will be gratefully received. Please send checks or cash to Jan in the Parish Office, who will record the donations and donors. This is a special appeal dedicated to this single activity.

**Some background:** Routinely Rich Naiko has the stained glass windows in the Church checked. It may not be obvious but stained glass windows like those that adorn our church are literally works of art, they are a treasure. On a recent inspection it was discovered that one of our windows needs some repair work.

Traditional stained glass windows use lead to create the mosaic. Lead is by nature soft, malleable and easily soldered. This means that it can also sag easily and lose its structural role. External signs of failure to look out for are: bulging or bowing of the window, cracking along the face of the lead (particularly near the solder joints) and a white, powdery spotting on the surface.

**The Art Treasurer at Trinity:** The window that needs some repair work is showing signs of bowing and needs to be repaired. We have an estimate to remove, repair and reinstall the window from a highly experienced restorer. When he visited the church to gather information to do the estimate, he was amazed at the treasure we have in our window. He recognized the work of the stained glass crafts person as Nicola D'Ascenzo who was founder of D'Ascenzo Studios in Philadelphia. He was one of America's foremost designers and manufacturers of stained glass windows and was often credited with helping to revive what was a dying craft. His works have at times been compared to that of Tiffany Stained Glass.

## In Memoriam

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Just after I retired and began to live in the Pocono's full time, I also began to attend the 8:00 AM service at Trinity. It was winter, and I recall sitting in the sanctuary before the service began; it was a grey winter morning and the sanctuary was also dark. The door from the parish hall opened and a tall man entered. He seemed to know everyone. One by one he stopped to say a few words to each person, shaking hands, a kiss on the cheek, sharing a laugh. Each person in turn seemed somewhat brighter, more radiant as he worked his way down the center aisle. As he approached me, he introduced himself making me feel like I was an old friend. By the time he was at the back of the church, having greeted all who had already arrived the entire church seemed brighter.

It was as if he was lighting a candle, one by one and in so doing the entire church was brighter and warmer.

As I listened to Father Chris' homily at the memorial service for Neil, I thought of this small encounter which touched me, warmed me and brightened not only me but where ever he seemed to pass.

## Our Prayers have been requested for:

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Mary Banzhof  
Sean Beech  
Gary Bender  
Ed Benintende  
Alex Backora  
Fr. Bob & Randy Criste-Troutman  
Victoria Forstein  
Bill Gessner  
Wendell & Jutta Moser  
Jim Rawson  
Fr. Charles Rice  
Lois Rothrock  
Heather  
Patti

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*