

TRINITY TIMES

Share God's Unconditional Love With Everyone.

From

Rev. William Martin

Our faith is based upon the assertion that our founder was crucified, died, and was buried, but that Jesus came back to life. Theologians through the centuries have said that there are three ways to look at this claim. First, it can be taken to be a hoax. Jesus' followers removed his body from the tomb, and then proclaimed that he had risen. The authorities in Jerusalem adhered to this claim as the official explanation for the empty tomb. However, if Jesus' body were simply stolen, would Christians have sacrificed their lives so readily to continue such a falsehood?



www.homemade-gifts-made-easy.com/easter-coloring-pages.html

Secondly, it can be seen as a mass hallucination among Jesus' followers, or perhaps as a subjective experience. Jesus remained dead, but in the hearts and minds of his followers, he had come to life again. Thus, Easter was an event in the lives of his many disciples, rather than an event in Jesus' own life. However, if this possibility were true, wouldn't Jesus' enemies have simply shown people his remains?

The third possibility, of course, is that Jesus on the third day really did return to life in a physical, material way. This is, of course, what we Christians believe. Remember though that initially the disciples, upon hearing from the women about the empty tomb, did not believe them. In their minds, dead people stay dead. Those minds, however, were changed when they saw, touched and talked to the risen Lord.

Every Christian, throughout the ages, has had to answer, "Did the resurrection really happen?". The Christian Church though is made up of men and women who are certain that they have met Christ as a living presence. Thus, they proclaim, "He is risen!"



Vigil

“...On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared...” (Luke 24:1)

The day before was the Sabbath and they had rested in accordance with the law. Holy Saturday continues to be a day of quiet. Once evening comes, our awareness that this night is unlike any other rises. During the hours from sunset to early dawn, the Lord acted. Jesus rose from the dead. It is an awesome night indeed.

The church has long honored this night with a vigil. For us, as Episcopalians, that form is found in the Book of Common Prayer. A portion of that service is The Liturgy of the Word. It consists of nine lessons, with Psalms, Canticles, and Collects. This year, at Trinity, we will gather in the parish hall at 7 PM on March 30th to keep this portion of the Easter Vigil. Those who wish to, will have the opportunity to read a passage. We will all say the Psalm or Canticle that follows each reading. At the conclusion there will be light refreshments. Participants will need a Bible and a copy of the Book of Common Prayer.

So that we may prepare, please let us know you are coming. There will be a sign-up sheet in the parish hall. Otherwise please email the office at trinitychurchmp@verizon.net or call and leave a message at 570-839-9376.

Hope to see you there!
Ginny Day





March 24 – Palm Sunday, Blessing of the Palms, Holy Eucharist & Passion Gospel Reading, 8 & 10 am

March 28 – Maundy Thursday, Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar, 7 pm

March 29 – Good Friday Liturgy with music, 7 pm

March 30 – The Liturgy of the Word from the Easter Vigil, 7 pm

March 31 – Easter Sunday, 8 & 10 am Festive Holy Eucharist

*Easter
Blessings*



Search Committee Update

At the Annual Meeting in January, on behalf of the Search Committee, we shared the Parish Profile that we had assembled based on the feedback session. Immediately after the Annual Meeting the Parish Profile, which included what we seek in a priest, a discussion on the vibrancy of our parish as well as our vision for the future. Also included was information on the Trinity financial, attendance and the overwhelming success of our Stewardship Campaign-- +30% versus last year.

Our process is broken out in 5 phases. We are now at Phase III which includes:

Phase III Late February to April 2024

- Meet with Canon Melinda Artman to identify candidates (Note: previously we had been directed to work with Canon Barbara Harris Seward)
 - Review candidates' profiles
 - Share Trinity Profile with candidates
 - Seek candidates to interview

In late February we received feedback from Canon Melinda Artman with some suggestions, tweaks, to our profile. These have been made and resubmitted. This is a bit later than hoped, but now we are ready to initiate the search which includes sharing our Profile with prospective candidates. Our stated goal is to find a match with a priest who is able to serve 3 days a week, Sunday and two days during the week.

It is expected that over the next two months we will see resumes of potential candidates. Assuming we find some matches, the Search Committee activity will ratchet up as we meet with candidates in the May/June timeframe.

As anyone who has been involved with finding and attracting candidates for a position, the "art" is finding the right balance of people skills, matching cultures and experiences.

We are optimistic, we are realistic and we are eager to meet interested candidates!

pray. wait. *trust.*

Reflections

by Michael Goodwin



A little girl was decorating a box with gold wrapping paper to put it under the Christmas tree. Money was tight, so the girl's father admonished her for wasting almost the whole roll of that expensive paper.

However, the next morning the girl brought the gift to her father. "This is for you, Daddy" – she said. He opened the box and found it empty, so he became angry. "Don't you know, that when you give someone a gift, it is supposed that there would be something inside it" – he said severely.

The little girl looked at her father with tears in her eyes. "Daddy, this box is not empty, I filled it with my kisses, all for you". The father was stunned. He felt so embarrassed that all he could do was just put his arms around his little daughter and beg for her forgiveness.

For many years of his life the man kept that golden box near his bed. Wherever he felt sad and downhearted he opened the box and thought of love that the little child had put into it.

Each of us have been given a present of unconditional love from our children, family, friends and God. It is the most precious possession that anyone could hold.

M.J.G

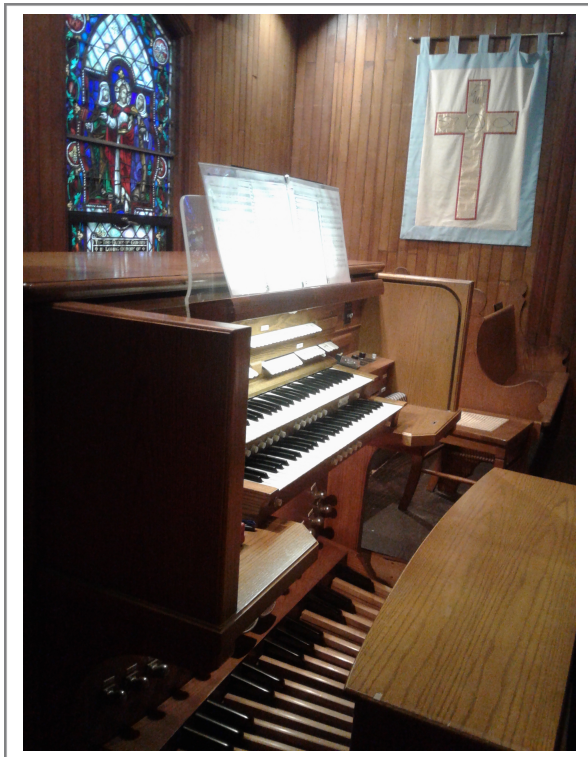


Sunday
March 10th

From the Loft

by

Barbara DePuy



MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC

Easter is coming with lots
of “lofty” offerings!

Sunday March 3 10:00AM

Sunday March 10 10:00AM

Sunday March 17 10:00AM

Palm Sunday 24th 10:00 AM

Maundy Thursday 7:00PM

Good Friday 7:00PM

Easter Sunday 31st 10:00 AM

WOW! 7 services commemorating
the last days of our Lord’s life, death
and GLORIOUS RESURRECTION!

COME! WORSHIP! SING!

Allen Organ



click on image - speakers up





Trinity Bible Study Group

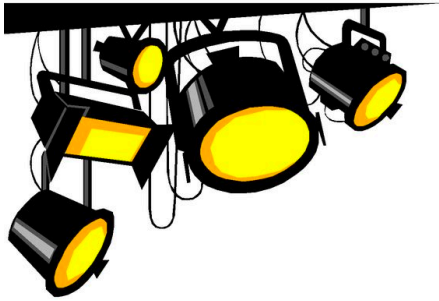
Wednesday Night Bible Study was recently revived after members discussed how much we missed meeting together and learning from one another. We thrive on community and enjoy our special time together. On Wednesday, November 1st at 7:00pm several members met via Zoom to discuss the lectionary readings for the week. We now average six to eight people per week.

We begin with prayer, followed by reading (taking turns among all attendees) and discussion of the readings available on [The Lectionary Page](#) and also distributed by email. People can use the emailed readings or read from their own Bibles. This allows for a greater variety and interest, since participants have their own preferred Bible translations. Zoom allows people who are unable to attend in person because of location, health, time, or weather to join our group. We close with “At Close of Day” or Compline. We plan to continue our discussions on Zoom with the possibility of meeting occasionally in person at the church.

All are welcome to join us!

The Zoom link can be found [here](#) or on the [Worship tab](#) of our webpage.

Respectfully submitted,
Christianna Johnson and Nancy Tkacs



Trinity Member Spotlight

Dana Garrett

I am what they call a “Cradle Episcopalian.” I was baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal church in Denver, CO and have many fond childhood memories of Sunday School, Christmas pageants, youth choir and, if I’m honest, giggling in the pews with friends as my mother forcefully poked my leg to try to keep me quiet. (Her efforts usually just made us laugh more). But after I graduated from High School and went to College, going to church became less a priority for me. Like many young 20-somethings, I thought I knew what I was doing, could fully control my life’s journey and really didn’t need to rely on God for any particular guidance. My overall mindset was — “I got this.”

My college years began in Colorado but finished in New York. Soon after graduating, I began working as a Production Assistant at CNN, got married and, in time, had two children and moved to Westchester County. Life was going as planned, right? Well — not so much. Commuting into New York, working a demanding job while raising two young children created a lot of stress. And sadly, I realized that the foundation of my marriage, which was never rooted in faith, was not strong enough to withstand the strain.

When we separated in the fall of 1998, it was the lowest point of my life. I felt lost and very much alone. I desperately needed guidance. I needed an anchor. It was in that moment that a friend of mine invited me to go with her to the Christmas Eve service at a church in Croton-on-Hudson that she had wanted to try.

At this point, I had not been to church in 15 years. It’s not that I hadn’t wanted to go. But I had been away for so long that I didn’t even know what I truly believed about God. I didn’t know if I would belong or even be welcome. But I accepted my friend’s offer with the hope that I wouldn’t be completely rejected.

Accepting that invitation changed the course of my life, as I soon came to realize that it wasn’t really my friend who had invited me back to church, it was God.

I began coming to church every Sunday and it was transformative. It almost felt as if I was dropping questions into some spiritual inbox that God was seeing and then answering. I was hearing messages everywhere - in Sermons, in conversation, in songs. For the first time in my life, I was beginning to understand what it meant to have a personal relationship with Jesus. It was the beginning of a healing journey to wholeness.

I eventually bought a house in the same community (one that I truly believe I was led to - but that's another story) and, at the time, felt sure it was the house I would live in for the rest of my life. I had found my spiritual home, my physical home and my community. I felt safe and loved and wanted to hold onto that forever.

But God had other plans.

Dave and I found each other. My children left for college. His were still in Pennsylvania, so we (mostly Dave) did a lot of back and forth driving between PA and NY.

And then my employer of 27 years announced layoffs - presenting me with an opportunity. I could keep my job if I wanted it — or I could leave with a severance package. Keeping the job meant I could stay in the home, community and church that I loved. Leaving felt exciting - an opportunity to explore something new - but the uncertainties were terrifying.

Ultimately - I followed my heart, and all the messages that God was sending, and took a scary leap of faith.

I am a firm believer that when you are following the path that God has laid before you - that things tend to fall into place. I have a friend who calls this “being in flow.” And I very much felt aligned with God’s plan as my NY home sold in one week, and Dave and I found our new home in PA on the first day of house hunting. It truly could not have gone more smoothly.

Moving to PA not only allowed Dave and I to live under one roof, it also afforded us the chance to start a new businesses - creating video content for mostly non-profit organizations. It’s a dream we’d had for many years, but never knew how to make happen. With patience and prayer - God had provided the path.

Once we were settled, I knew I wanted to find a new church home. The only community we had here was Dave’s family, who had always gone to the Methodist church. We were invited to join the choir so I decided to give it a try.

The church was beautiful and the people were lovely. But, for me, there was just something missing. Over the year we attended, that “missing” turned into a deep longing. It was then that I realized how deeply in love I was with the Episcopal church.

So in the fall of 2016, Dave and I followed our GPS to 137 Trinity Hill Road. When we made the left turn into the driveway, I had to catch my breath at the beauty of our little church in the woods. When we walked into the sanctuary, I was taken with the warmth and beauty of all the wood paneled walls and ceiling, and the magnificence of the stained-glass windows. But it was not until the middle of the service, during the passing of the peace, that I knew what a truly special place this was. The pews literally emptied as everyone moved to the center to greet each other with hugs and handshakes. The feeling of love was palpable and enveloping. And I knew I had found my church home.

Today I am blessed with a stable marriage, a beautiful home and rewarding work. And I am wise enough to know that I would not be here without relying on God as my anchor and my compass. At Trinity I have found a home where I feel God’s grounding presence and guiding love —in the way we worship, the way we do fellowship and the way we pass the peace - sharing God’s love with everyone, in every pew. And receiving it in return.



Trinity Member Spotlight is a new feature in our monthly newsletter. During our group meetings, so many of you shared your personal, inspirational stories on how you came to Trinity and why you stayed. We would love to share your stories with everyone. Please consider sending your story to the newsletter.

send to: lauriekitzmiller@gmail.com

CREATION CARE

by Laurie Kitzmiller



How to Celebrate a Sustainable Easter

<https://greenerideal.com/guides/going-green-easter/>

click link above



MAKE A RESURRECTION GARDEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

2:00 PM

IN THE PARISH HALL



Laurie Kitzmiller will walk you through the process of making a lovely, inspirational, Resurrection Garden to enjoy during the Easter season.

Sign up sheet in the parish hall.

Signing up is essential for supply planning.

\$30 donation

MOVIE MATINEE

POPCORN & MOVIE MATINEE

Popcorn, Floats, Sundaes

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Lunch 12 Noon

Movie 1:00

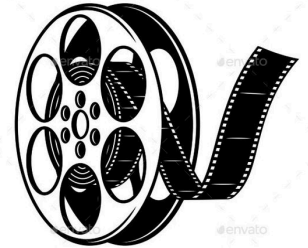
Admission \$5.00

Special Deal \$5.00 per person or \$7.00
per couple

If planning to attend, contact John
Vicich

845-476-4683 or

johnvicich@gmail.com



James Caan Marsha Mason Eli
Wallach

“CINDERELLA LIBERTY”

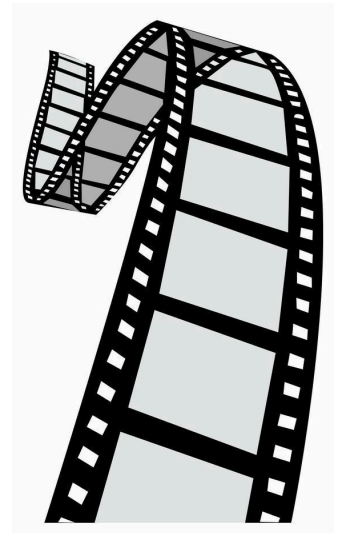
A sailor on liberty meets a “call girl”
in a game of pool, and their
relationship goes from there,
with all its complications. She has an
11-year-old son and is pregnant with
another sailor’s baby.

Marsha Mason’s best performance,
and one of James Caan’s best.
Nominated for 3 Academy Awards

Coming in April

A PATCH OF BLUE

Sidney Poitier Elizabeth Hartman
Shelley Winters



Join us for another
Paint N Sip

Saturday, April 6th. 2:00 PM



Cherry Blossoms

Laurie Kitzmiller will walk you through an easy and fun painting process to create a beautiful painting of cherry blossoms.

Sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall

Bring a friend!

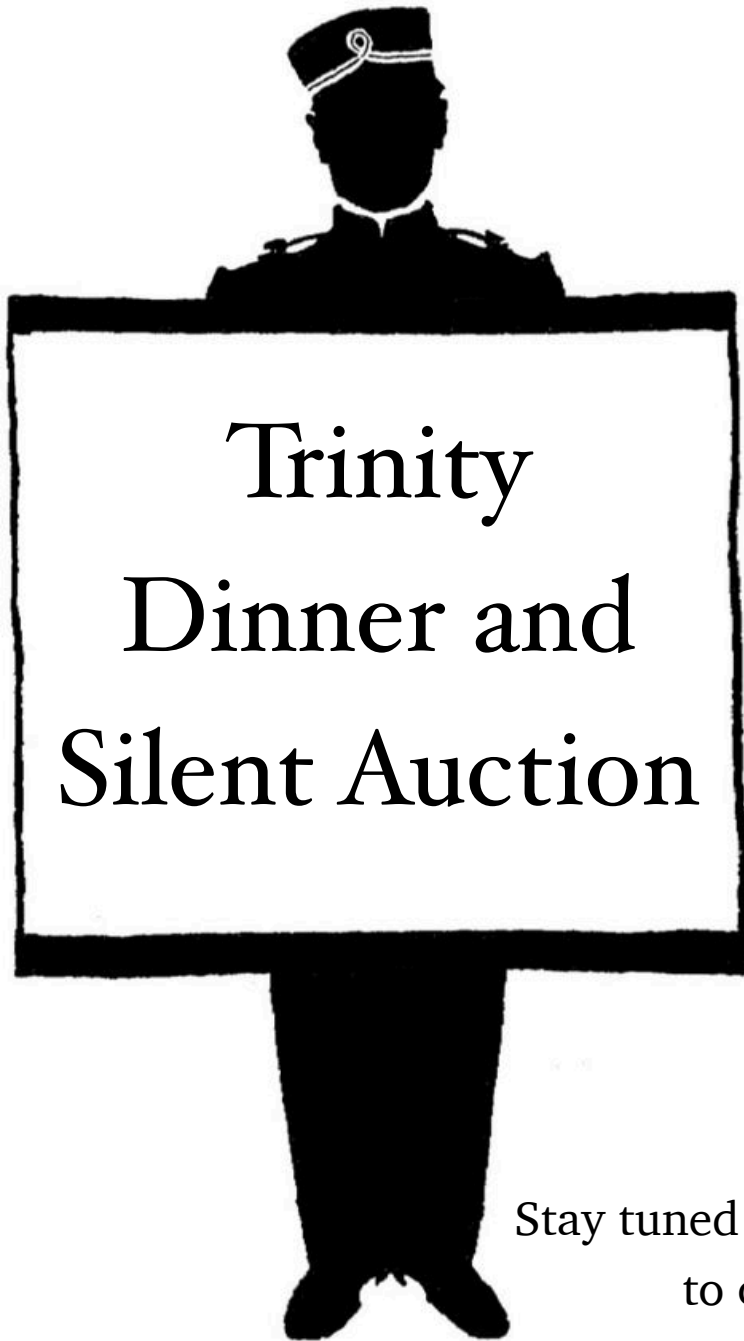
\$25 donation

all proceeds go to Trinity

light refreshments will be provided

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 8th.



AUCTION ITEMS

NEEDED!!

We are looking for donations to make our Dinner Auction fundraising event a success. Please consider donating:

gift baskets

gift certificates

goods and services

newer household items

art

crafts

Stay tuned for more details
to come!



SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

Please consider signing up to host or sponsor coffee hour. We offer on the job training!!

Sign up board outside the kitchen door in the Parish Hall

Volunteers!



FRESH EGGS FOR SALE From Dana's Happy Hens

TO BENEFIT TRINITY CHURCH



Dana's backyard chickens are back to full egg production - with the addition of 10 new layers to the flock!

She will have between 2-4 dozen fresh eggs to sell each week at coffee hour for \$5 per dozen or \$3 for a half dozen.

All proceeds from the sale will go to Trinity Church, as an ongoing fundraiser.

Poetry Corner



The Four-Leaved Clover.

I KNOW a place where the sun is
like gold,
And the cherry blooms burst with
snow,
And down underneath in the loveliest
nook,
Where the four-leaved clovers grow.
One leaf is for hope, and one is for
faith,
And one for love, you know,
And God put another one in for luck,
If you search you will find where
they grow.
But you must have hope, and you
must have faith,
You must love and be strong—
and so,
If you work, if you wait, you will find
the place,
Where the four-leaved clovers grow.

March

Birthdays

1 Peter Gonze

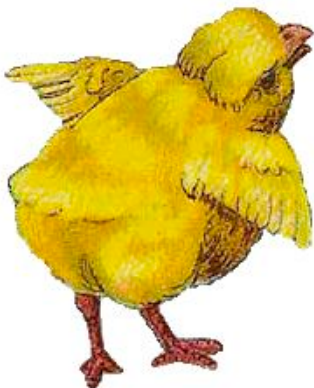
7 Rev. Elizabeth Haynes

7 Rev. Bill Martin

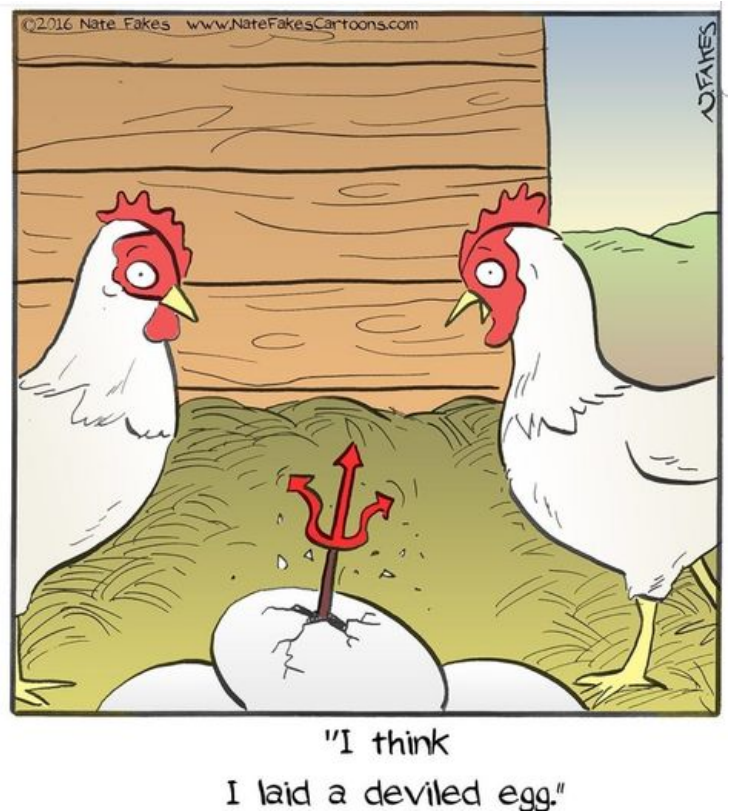
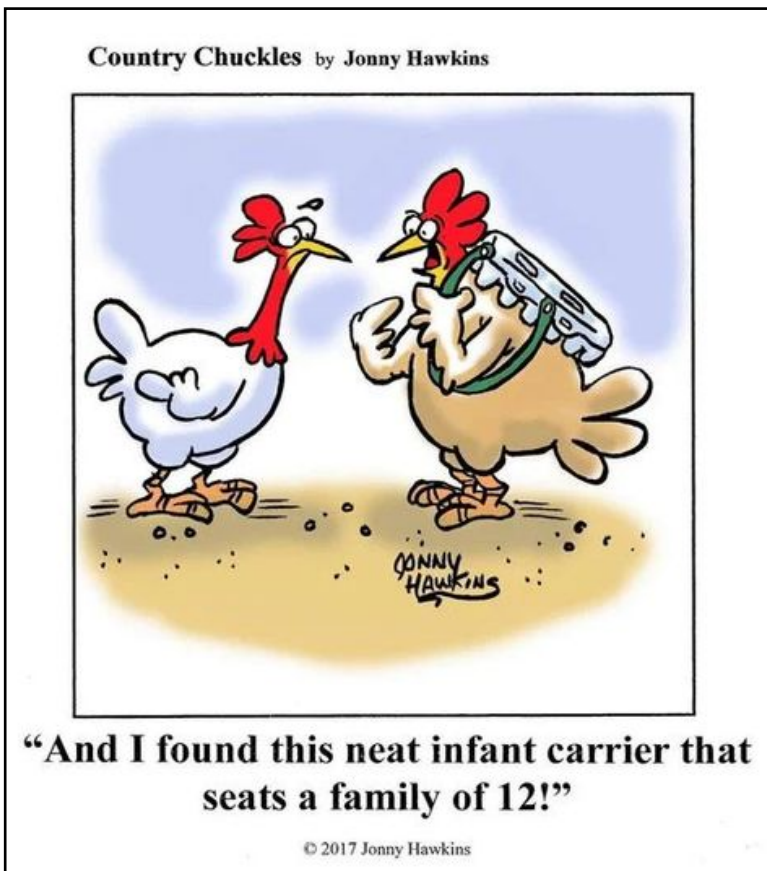
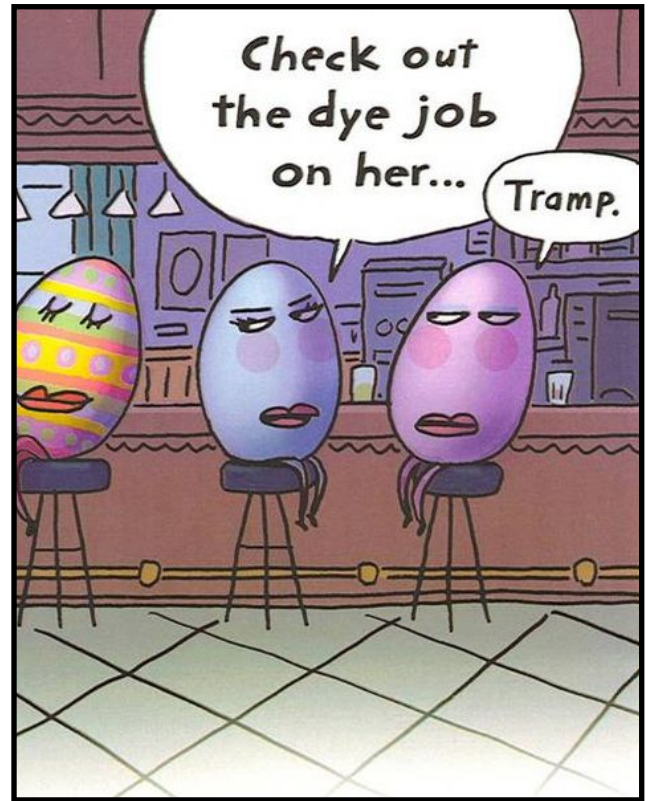
13 Bob Butiste

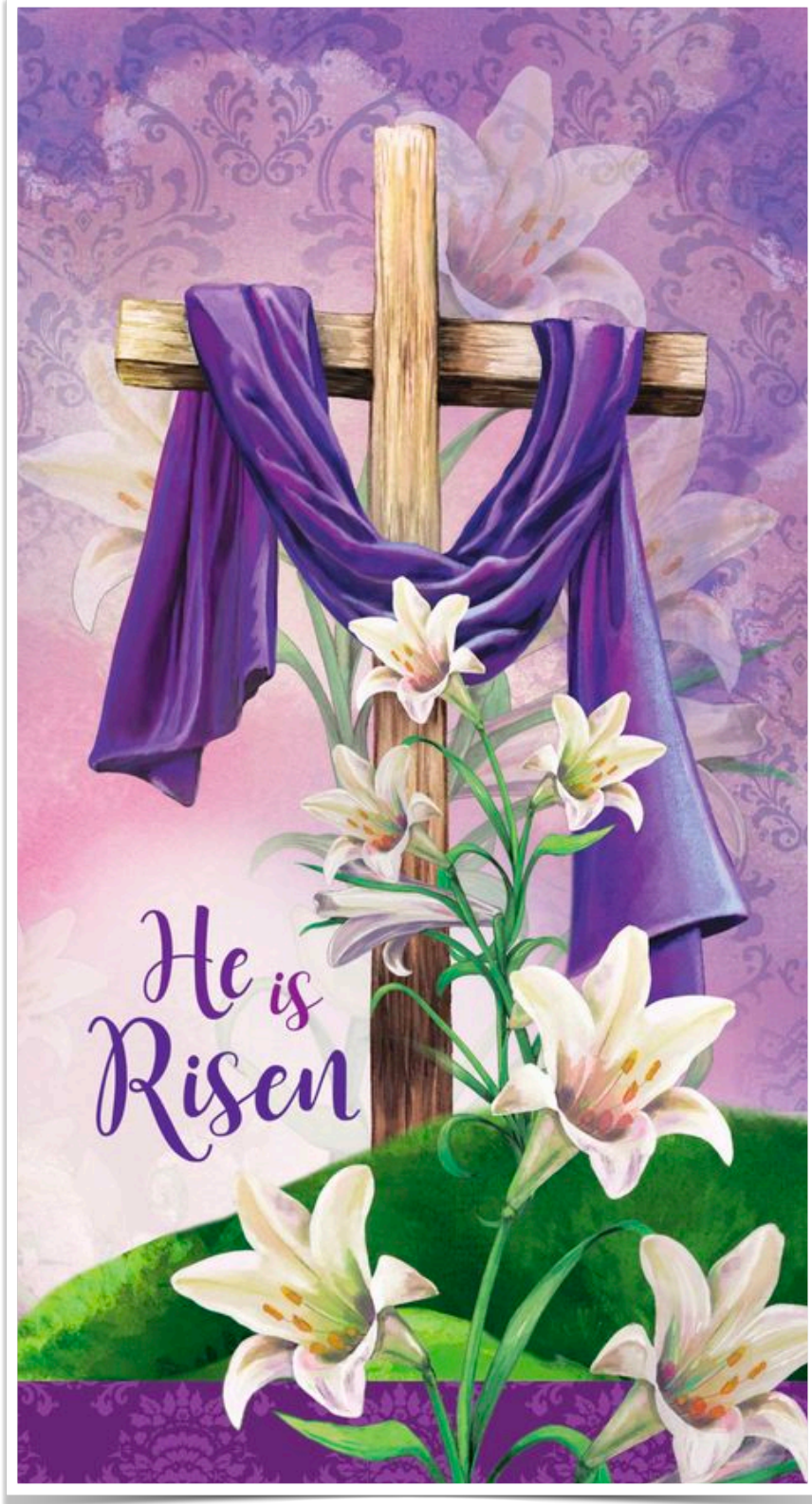
15 Justin Johnson

29 Dana Garrett



FUNNY PAGE





Happy Easter