

TRINITY TIMES

Share God's Unconditional Love With Everyone.

From

Rev. William Martin



Gail and I have eight cats which we take care of: four indoor and four outdoor. One of the outdoor cats, whom we have named Figeroa, pretty much stays by herself on our front porch. She loves Gail. She will come running when she sees or hears Gail's voice. Figeroa will rub against Gail and she will allow Gail to pet and scratch her. She would be perfectly happy to have Gail sit with her all day.

On the other hand, she will not allow me to come within ten feet of her. Maybe in her past, she was mistreated by a human male; the bottom line though is that she avoids me at all costs. I do try to give her signs that I am not a threat. I speak to her softly and quietly. I bring her food a couple of times during the day. I have even tried sitting on the front step, but no matter what I do, she does not believe that I have her best interests in mind.



During this time of year, she so reminds me of the Pharisees and scribes of Jesus' time. They came with their doubts and demanded evidence from Jesus regarding both his nature and mission. Jesus consistently refused to meet their demands. He would not allow them to set the standards that they expected him to measure up to in order to win their faith. Jesus also knew that there are people who are simply incapable of appreciating evidence, even when it is given to them. They had already made up their minds about Jesus and no evidence would have been good enough to convince them otherwise. They dismissed his teachings, they criticized his deeds ("Why was this done on the Sabbath?"), and they were skeptical of his life of compassion; and yet, they still asked him for signs. They would not have believed any signs though, any more than Figeroa believes my signs of goodness. In fact, I probably have a better chance of convincing her of my sincerity than did Jesus have with the religious leaders who opposed him .

Fr. Bill



Reflections

by Michael Goodwin



He *is* risen. Three little words that changed the world. We should be aware that those words are written in the present tense not past.

When I was young I was excited about Easter because of the bunnies and chocolate eggs etc. Spring-time was imminent, there was a sense of renewal in the air; things seemed so fresh and new somehow. Later in life I realized that Easter is much more than bunnies and chocolate eggs. It's about hope, redemption, and the resurrection.

Easter is the Foundation of our Faith. Christians celebrate Jesus' voluntary death and His triumphant return, offering salvation to humankind. We should remember that Easter isn't just a historical event—it's a powerful reminder of love, sacrifice, and the promise of eternal life.

One of my favorite Easter stories is the one about doubting Thomas. I would think that Thomas had a few choice words to say to the other apostles as they told him that he had missed meeting with the risen Jesus. You can read about it in the Gospel of John, Chapter 21, verse 24.

After Jesus had shown and Thomas had touched His wounds from the crucifixion, I am sure that Thomas believed in a big way - "My Lord and my God" seem to me to be an understatement!!. The part of this story that touches me are the words of Jesus himself to Thomas, "because you have seen me Thomas you have believed, blessed are those that have not seen and yet have believed".

He *is* risen

M.J.G

From the Loft

by

Barbara DePuy



THE LOFT WELCOMES!

RAYMOND FAUSSETTE

**Organist and (Pianist, Trumpeter,
Drummer**

FROM

**Mt Pocono United
Methodist Church**

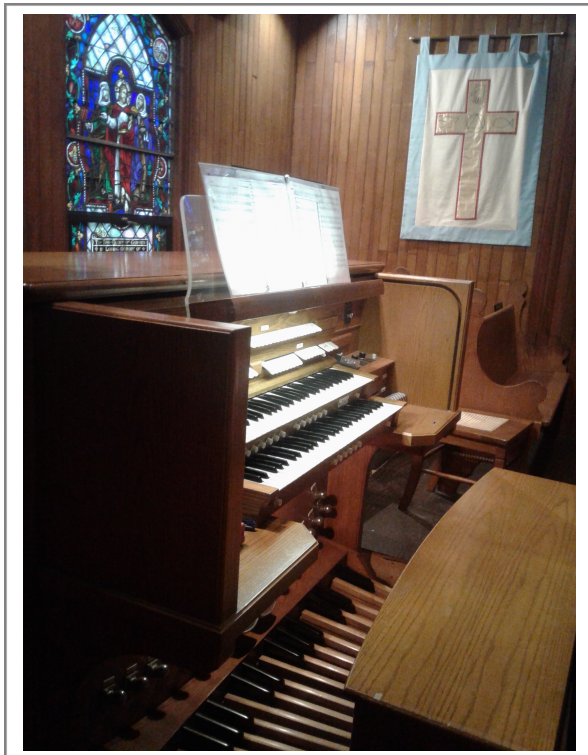
AGE 20

GRADUATE

**Pocono Mountain East HS VOCATION/
EDUCATION Para Professional
Program Pocono Mountain East HS
EAGER LEARNER Episcopal Liturgy
and Hymns**

**MANY BLESSINGS and HUGS TO
RAYMOND, A REFRESHING,
ENTHUSIASTIC ADDITION
TO MY TRINITY LOFT!**

**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! ALLEN
ORGAN**



**Sing an Easter Alleluia
Mary McDonald**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jIXZCn1MVs&list=PL7oibjwN-2wptKYWaUe6D6USrxkob4LSC>

click on link - speakers up





Trinity Bible Study Group

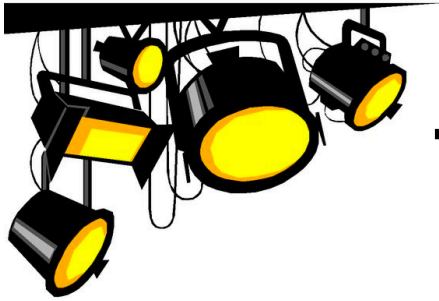
Wednesday Night Bible Study was recently revived after members discussed how much we missed meeting together and learning from one another. We thrive on community and enjoy our special time together. On Wednesday, November 1st at 7:00pm several members met via Zoom to discuss the lectionary readings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

Bob Butiste

My name is Robert Joseph Batiste, but that is not the name I was given at birth. I was born in Sapporo, Hokkaido Japan. My mother, Tomiko Sasaki, is Japanese and I was given the name Sasaki Minoru. How I ended up in Mt. Pocono, Pennsylvania and a member of Trinity Episcopal Church is a story of pilgrimage and God's love.

I was born in a Catholic baby home and the day I was born I was put up for adoption. My father was an American serviceman who had abandoned my Mom. I love my Mom who gave me the gift of life. I lived in the baby home for five years, along with 200 other orphan babies. Everyone of us was Japanese American.

When I turned five, I was transferred to a Boys Town run by Roman Catholic priests. The priests there were wonderful. They cared for us, taught us right from wrong, made sure we respected life and nature, and that we treated everyone the same. I was there two years learning about friendship, respect and love. Then on April 21, 1956, I was adopted by Herman Joseph Butiste and Joan Margaret Butiste.

My Dad was stationed at Misawa Air Force base on the Island of Honshu as a radar technician and Mom was at home on B Battery Road. My Mom came to the airport at Sapporo to meet me. We boarded a plane, and I left behind my life at Boys Town and headed to my new home and parents. We landed at Misawa Air Force base and I saw my Dad for the first time, on crutches with a broken ankle. My new parents also adopted a girl two years old and named her Patricia Marie Butiste. My sister Patti was from southern Tokyo area. Having been gifted with loving parents and a little sister, my whole new life and adventure began.

In September of 1956, my Dad was discharged from the Air Force and we left Japan and headed to my new home in America. We took a cruise liner for the two week journey from Japan to Kodiak Alaska, and then to Seattle, Washington. My parents then drove us across America. The trip was unforgettable. My Dad drove through 26 states and I saw new, unbelievable sights: parks, cities, farmlands, mountain roads. I had endless questions and my Dad took the time to explain everything. To this day, I still remember that trip across America with a sense of wonder.

We arrived in Oil City, Pennsylvania where my life got even better. All at once my family expanded. I met my new relatives: Great Grandparents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, and the welcome we got was unbelievable.

At times growing up, I did experience cruel comments and racist remarks because I was Japanese American. But my parents taught me about patience, and understanding, and turning the other cheek. As a boy, I made every effort to learn about different countries and cultures. I also wanted to learn about other religions and their customs. In 1962 our family moved to Clearwater, Florida, and as we drove south I saw first hand the effects of segregation and the civil rights movement. I have always believed we are all God's children and we are all equal. The schools I went to were segregated until my senior year when we were integrated. As students, we had no issues or problems. The problems came from the parents. As young people, we all got along and worked together. This too was part of my pilgrimage, my life journey, and the early lessons of love and respect helped me.

My pilgrimage eventually carried me back to Pennsylvania. As a young adult, I was active in the church, but then life events got in the way and for a long time I was without a church home. Then my wife had a heart attack and passed away in our home.

Six weeks after her death I went to Trinity Episcopal Church in Mt. Pocono, on September 19, 1999. The beautiful stained glass windows filled my heart and I was back home. The 23 years I was away from the Episcopal Church was the lowest point in my life. I felt I had abandoned God and I was not myself. That first Sunday at Trinity was memorable. I sang in the choir for the first time since 1976. After service I was introduced to the parish members and I met The Rev. Ginny Day. My outlook on life changed that day. I felt my life was going to improve drastically.

Another important event took place on my first Sunday at Trinity. I was introduced to Carol, who would become my wife two years later. For the first time in a long time, I was becoming myself again.

Through the years at Trinity I have become more involved in church because this beautiful church and community of people saved my life, renewed my faith, and made me a better servant of God. I owe my life to God and Trinity Church. My journey has been full of joy, happiness, and sadness. A few times, I almost hit rock bottom; but each time God lifted me up and said, "I am here for you always."



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



Photo by Laurie Kitzmiller

CREATION CARE

by Laurie Kitzmiller



This year, Earth Day is celebrated on:

Monday, April 22nd.

Episcopalians are invited to commemorate it on Sunday, April 21st or any Sunday this spring by praying, preaching, and taking action to care for God's creation.

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ecojustice/earth-day-2024-episcopal-church/?mc_cid=c3c1105d03&mc_eid=e256b33179

click link above



MOVIE MATINEE

POPCORN & MOVIE MATINEE

Popcorn, Floats, Sundaes

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Lunch 12 Noon

Movie 1:00

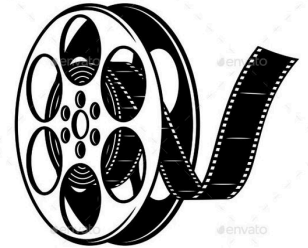
Admission \$5.00

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



Sidney Poitier ShelleyWinters
Elizabeth Hartman

“A PATCH OF BLUE”

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=iMaUGPg3CA8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMaUGPg3CA8)

An 18-year-old blind girl is confined to her apartment because of her blindness. She was accidentally blinded when she was only five years old by her own mother. Then one day she meets a kind gentleman who helps her to “see” the world around her and navigate through it, until her abusive mother discovers the man is black.

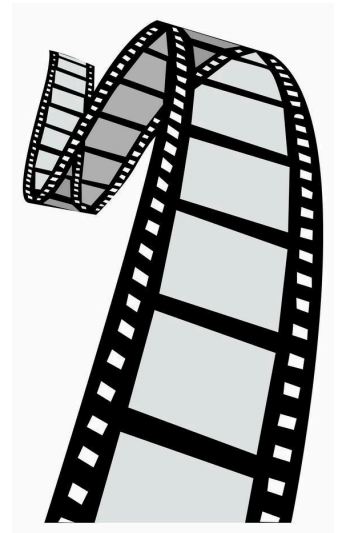
Oscar Supporting Actress: Shelley Winters

Coming in May

CHINATOWN

Jack Nicholson Faye Dunaway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T37OkBc4IGY>



Resurrection Garden workshop



Fun was had by all!



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



Broccoli Rabe with Cannellini Beans

Ingredients:

Large bunch Broccoli Rabe (Wash and separate, stems from leaves cut into 2 inch pieces)
1 can large white Cannellini Beans, drained
4-5 cloves of Garlic, chopped
1/2 cup white wine
1 cup Chicken broth

Instructions:

Blanche the Broccoli Rabe in hot, salted water.
Shock with ice water to retain color.
Let drain.
Simmer wine, broth and garlic reduced down to 1/2.
Add the broccoli rabe and beans to the broth mixture.
Salt and pepper to taste
Pinch of hot pepper flakes
Top with fresh grated Parmesan cheese



CALLING ALL
TRINITY ARTISTS!!

**Please consider
sharing your talents.**

**Display your
creations in the
Parish Hall and
share with everyone
your process and
inspirations.**



Mark your calendar for a fun evening of art and fellowship during our wine and cheese art reception.

Saturday May 11th.

Get to know some of our talented parishioners and learn about their processes and what inspires them.



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

April

HOW can the day be dreary,
How can the heart be sad;

How can the soul be weary
When all the winds are glad —
When every bud is leaping,
Triumphant, from its bed;
When March is spent and sleeping,
And Summer 's just ahead?

There 's joy among the flowers,
There 's glee upon the hills;
There 's laughter in the showers
That swell the leaping rills;
There 's gladness in the hedges
Where happy songsters wed,
Exchanging loving pledges,
With Summer just ahead.

There 's joy in every cluster
Of reeds upon the slope;
Each morning puts new luster
Upon the shield of hope!
Why should a heart beat sadly,
An eye look out with dread,
When all the woods ring gladly
And Summer 's just ahead!

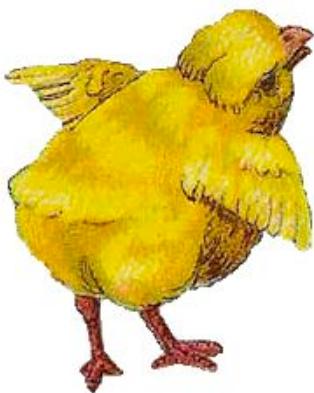
April

Birthdays

8 Ivana Ezeokoli

17 Linda Salmon

28 Riley Keiper

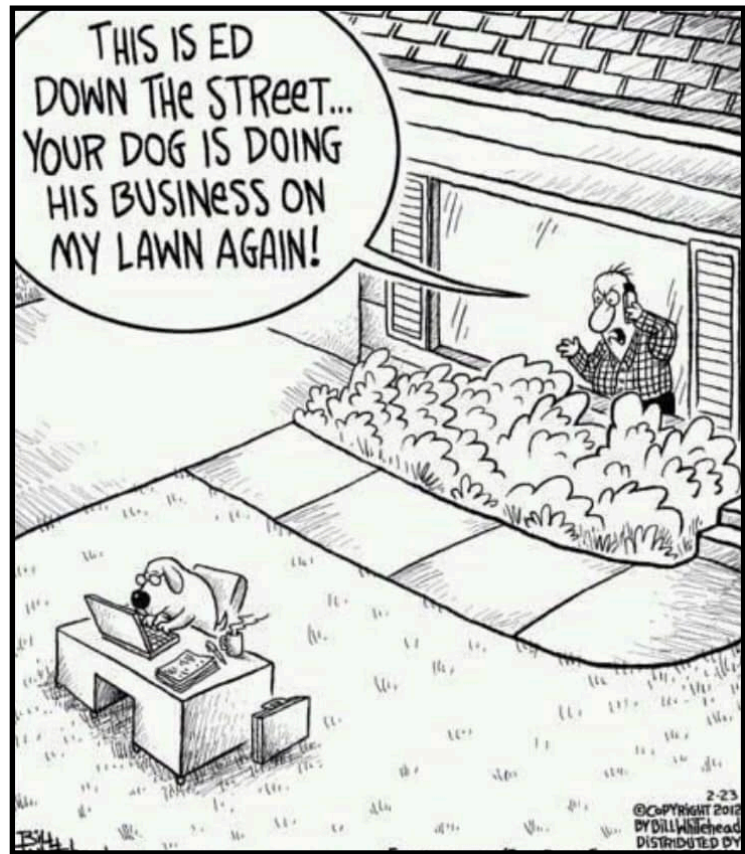
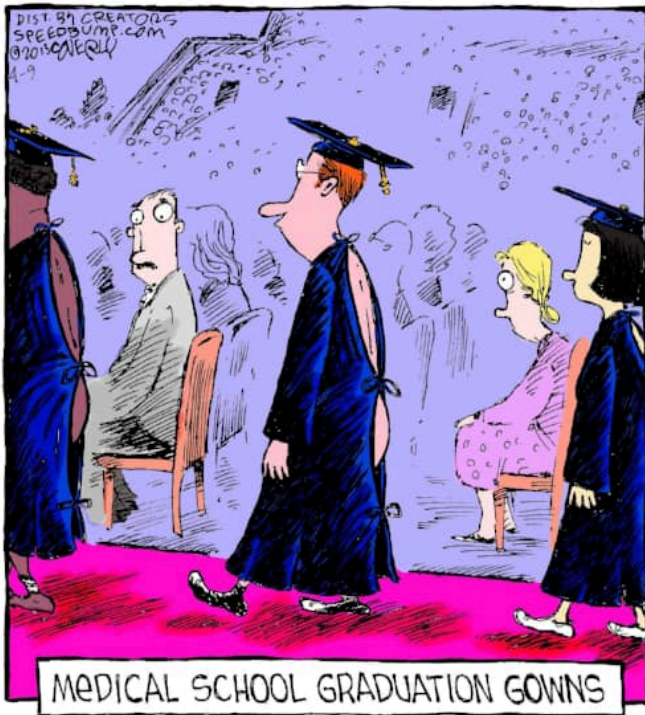


Anniversaries

24 Michael & Pat Goodwin

30 Dick & Janet Orner

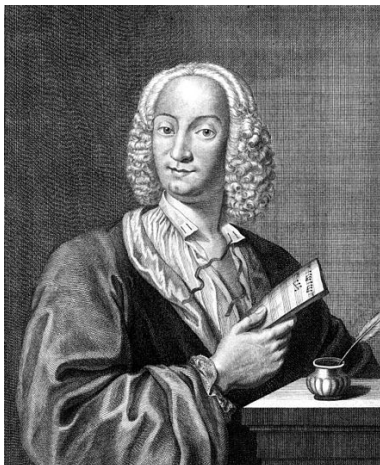
FUNNY PAGE



Welcome Spring



click the picture above-speakers up!



Antonio Vivaldi