

Summer 2021

Trinity Tidings



A Publication of
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
839 Haddon Avenue—Collingswood, NJ
www.holytrinity.us ~
holytrinity1@verizon.net
(856) 858-0491

Embracing New Opportunities Facing the Future in the New Normal

Dear Friends,

We are beginning to come out from the dark days of COVID-19. We all desire the return of normalcy. But it may not necessarily be the normalcy we remember. We are a different people now because of our experience with COVID-19. What the new normalcy will be is an open-ended question. The way the Church did things in the past does not have to be the way we will do things in the future. This is a time of discernment. What is God calling us and leading us to be and do in the days and years ahead?

When World War II broke out in Europe, all the major powers had to move quickly to raise up their armed forces and all available weapon systems had to be utilized. In the case of the British army, this meant re-activating equipment that had not been used since the Boer war in South Africa a half century earlier. One piece of light artillery in particular had an interesting firing procedure. Per the operating manual, five men were assigned to fire the cannon. The number of crew members were required to perform an odd ritual. When the cannon was loaded and ready to fire, two members of the crew would snap to attention and remain that way until after the cannon was fired. The artillery officers were baffled by this routine and saw no need for those two soldiers. Finally, a long-retired artillery officer was called in to watch the firing procedure. After observing the unit fire the cannon several times, he exclaimed, "I have it! They're holding the horses."

During the Boer War, horses were the principal means of transporting artillery and moving it into firing position. This particular cannon would have required two horses, and therefore two soldiers had to hold the reins of the horses when the cannon was fired to keep the animals from running off. Horses had long since been phased out, but the five-man crew was left intact. This meant that two of the five soldiers merely functioned as placeholders.

The challenge for us today is to recognize the areas in which we need to change, to stop being placeholders so as to have a greater impact in the world as followers of Jesus Christ. Change is inevitable. We have to move forward with Jesus lest we lose our sacred mission of doing and being the Church and end up holding the reins of a horse that no longer exists. The vestry has begun a process of reflection on adapting Holy Trinity Church to a post-pandemic time. What events should be retained? What are the mission opportunities? How shall we be structured to meet these new opportunities? I invite you to join in this conversation. Please share your thoughts and ideas with me, the wardens, or any vestry member. Together in Christ we will journey into this new day!

Faithfully,

The Rev. Mark H. Chattin
Rector

Upcoming Summer Events

July 4— Sept 12	Summer Service Schedule <i>Sundays</i> - 9:15AM – Holy Eucharist (No Music) in person & live stream online at www.holytrinity.us <i>Saturdays</i> – 5:30PM – Evening Prayer on the conference call line – 856- 861-3864, pin # 924-821
July 26	Summer Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m. at the Rectory

And after Labor Day... (Mark your calendars now!)

Sept 19	Celebration Sunday See article page 2
Sept 25	St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals 10:30 a.m. on the plaza
Oct 2	Holy Trinity's Used Book Sale at the Collingswood Book Fair 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Oct 17	Eighth Annual Great Cookie Taste-Off Following the 9:15 service
Oct 31	Costume Sunday
Nov 2	Election Day Spaghetti Dinner More information to come
Nov 7	All Saints' Sunday

TREASURER'S SIX MONTH REPORT

Expenses	\$124,237
Income/Contributions	\$67,390
Deficit	-\$56,847

We invite your continuing regular offerings to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity Church. These offerings are critical to you as you live life as a steward of God's gifts and they are crucial to the ongoing life of the Church. The pandemic may have changed the pattern of financial giving due to the absence of in-person worship. You may place your contributions in the offering plate at weekly services, send your offerings through the post office, or send them electronically using the online giving link on the [website](http://www.holytrinity.us).

Celebration Sunday!!!

Join us for a very happy, merry and blessed
ThanksChrismEaster Service...

Put a big red circle around Sunday, September 19th and plan to join us for a **Celebration Sunday** as we regather for the beginning of the 2021-2022 season! Did you miss Thanksgiving at church? Did you miss Christmas at church? Did you miss Easter at church? Our Celebration Sunday will feature the best of these holy days services—hymns and carols, readings and prayers. If you will not be joining us in person over the summer, consider making Celebration Sunday the day of your return to Holy Trinity. All COVID-19 safety measures will be followed!

Butterflies and Bird Houses!!!

New additions to our beautiful church grounds ...

Perhaps you've noticed some new additions to our grounds on the parking lot side of the building...We now have a lovely Butterfly Garden and some pretty birdhouses adorning our property.



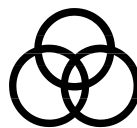
Butterfly Garden

Back in April, we were contacted by Stephanie Pierson, a member of Liberti Church who is part of the Rutgers University Environmental Stewards Program. Stephanie's project is to establishing Monarch Butterfly Habitats at all of the churches in Collingswood to help demonstrate the church's role in preserving and appreciating God's creation. In order to make this project a reality, Stephanie is partnering

with a local Girl Scout troop, led by Lisa Casswell. Due to our ideal location both for the plants and for public access and visibility, Holy Trinity was chosen as the pilot church for this project, and in early May, Lisa and several girls from her troop got to work planting Monarch habitat plant kits donated by the Horticultural Society of SJ. The plants are now fairly well established with lovely blooms in several colors, which will hopefully attract many beautiful monarchs this summer. We were thrilled to be part of this project. Please take a look as you walk past the parking lot on Haddon Avenue.

Bird Houses

Not only do we have a new butterfly garden, we now have three very pretty birdhouses and some lovely new flowering bushes on the far side of the parking lot driveway. Our neighbor, Mike Almond, who has donated several bushes and trees, added the birdhouses and shrubs which add some more cheerful color over on that side of the property. Thanks for thinking of us, Mike! We're looking forward to seeing who moves into the houses this summer!



Summer Food Pantry Donations

Over the summer we're still collecting items for the Collingswood Food Pantry. For the months of July and August we'll be collecting pasta and spaghetti sauce.



Please leave your donations in the tub in the tower, and we'll deliver them.

If you have any left over canned meats from June, we'll still take them, too. Thanks for your support of this very necessary community program.

COVID Safety Protocol Update From the Diocese of New Jersey...

For the fully Vaccinated – Masks do not need to be worn inside or outside, social distancing is not necessary. The lectern side of the Church is open seating. Sit where you like and with whom you like. It is OK to sing and to use the Prayer Books and Hymnals in the pew racks.

For Children, Youths and the Unvaccinated – Masks need to be worn inside and social distancing observed. The pulpit side of the Church is for restricted seating for family units and others who observe social distancing. It is OK to sing and use the books in the pew racks.

For All – It's always OK to wear a mask anywhere and stay distanced as you are comfortable. If you don't feel well, stay home and watch the service on-line. As of yet there is no change on how we receive communion or the distanced exchange of the Peace.

THIS IS HOW WE LOVE
ONE ANOTHER!