

Fall 2020

Trinity Tidings



A Publication of
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

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Listening for Jesus Discerning his Loving Voice Amidst the Chaos...

Dear Friends,

These are scary times. It doesn't seem to matter what area of life, there is a lot of shouting going on. Whether it is in politics or community relations, locally, nationally, or internationally. People are scared and angry, and I don't know about you, but I've just about had enough. I'm looking for a voice of reason, of love and care, of truth and health. Of course, we already have that voice – it is Jesus, the very Word of God, and it is through him that we can bring a little light to our world.

So, I was struck by this daily devotional by Episcopal Priest David Baumann published in *The Living Church* magazine on September 27, 2020. I hope it speaks to you as well.

In the Peace of God,

The Rev. Mark H. Chattin
Rector

James 3:5-12

Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by

mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Meditation

When I was a young, new rector and presiding at a parish meeting, an angry parishioner shouted, "You are a lousy priest!" and strode out of the room. Immediately after that, another man came to me and said quietly, "That's not true. You are a fine priest, and we are blessed to have you." I have never forgotten either exclamation, but it was the second one that had the greater power, and I was comforted.

The Australian actor Tim Minchin is reputed to have said, "Sticks and stones can break your bones, but words can break your heart." This wise, insightful, captivating statement is a takeoff on the old children's chant, "...but words can never hurt me." As we all know, the old adage is simply not true. Over the years of my long ministry I have learned that one cannot ever really underestimate the

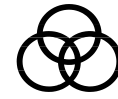
Upcoming Events (Mark your Calendar Now!)

Oct 10	St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals 10:30 a.m. on the plaza— See article page 2
Oct 14-15	Bosco's Friends Helping Friends Days See page 4 of this newsletter
Oct 15	Vestry Meeting 7:30 p.m. In person and via conference line
Oct 31	Soup Order Pick Up Day Noon to 2:00 p.m. See insert
Nov 1	All Saints Day Celebration Return to Indoor Worship 9:30 a.m. See article page 2

power of words for good or for harm; surely every reader of this devotion can say the same. James tells us in no uncertain terms that the tongue is a fire — and he's not describing Pentecost here. Fire warms, cooks, and comforts; and also gives the greatest pain that can be felt. Words that we write or speak express the cultivated, godly depths of our minds, hearts, and souls. They also expose our hidden abysses of rage, spite, anguish, self-centeredness, and accusation.

Jesus is the Word of God, who reveals the divine nature. Satan is a title that means "the Accuser," the one who speaks accusations. "From the same mouth come blessing and cursing... this ought not to be so." But it is so in our daily lives — in what we say to others, what we write on Facebook, what we say to those closest to us. Let us never underestimate the power of our words, their power to serve the Lord or the Accuser. James didn't!

~David Baumann



All Saints Day Celebration Gathering Inside and In-Person!!!

Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Day and this year will be an extra special celebration as we move inside for an in-person 9:30 a.m. family Mass. Our first indoor service since March! All CDC and Diocesan Guidelines will be followed. Attendance will be limited to 45 and the church has been marked out for social distancing. Masks must be worn (except for Communion) and there will be no congregational singing. Because of the pandemic, the service will be different than what we were used to.

If you are not comfortable attending in person, that's perfectly OK! We will continue to livestream the service each week, and the Conference Call line (856-861-3864 PIN 924821) will still be available for anyone who wants to dial in by phone. Our outdoor service will also continue, but will move to a new time (still to be determined).

As part of our All Saints, All Souls Day service, we will remember the dearly departed who have entered the vast Communion of Saints. Use the form included with this newsletter to submit the names of those you would like us to include. Please return the form to the church by Tuesday, October 27. We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses! (Hebrews 12:1)

Congrats Lindsay & Matt! Celebrating our High School Graduates!!!

It's hard to believe that this is our first *Trinity Tidings* since Pentecost, and we sure don't want to let any more time go by without honoring the young people in our parish who graduated high school this past spring.

Both of our graduates started college this semester, and we ask you to keep them and all of our scholars and teachers in your prayers this school year. Here's a little bit about each of our high school grads...

Lindsay Anderson



Lindsay graduated from Camden Catholic High School and is now attending Gwynedd Mercy University. At GMU she will be studying Criminal Justice and playing lacrosse. She was awarded the Mother Mary Bernard scholarship by Gwynedd Mercy and received the Bishop Van Duzer scholarship from the Diocese of New Jersey as well as an Episcopal Church Women Student Service Award.

Matt McMullen

Matt graduated from George School (in Newtown, PA). During his time at George School, he served as a member of the Discipline Committee and was a part of various clubs including Model UN. He is attending Bucknell University and will be majoring in Civil Engineering. Matt was also the recipient of an Episcopal Church Women Student Service Award.



For Our Pets & Pet Lovers! St. Francis Blessing of Animals...

Bring your pets and join us for a careful and socially distanced St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 10.



This year there will be some changes to our event in order to carefully adhere to both State of New Jersey and Diocese of New Jersey regulations and directives. We will not be widely advertising our service to the general public this year, but are inviting members of our Holy Trinity family to attend.

Due to the nature of our St. Francis service, some COVID-19 safety guidelines (such as distancing and gathering outdoors) are always in place, others on the list below will be new to us this year.

- ◆ All human participants will be required to wear masks
- ◆ Six-foot social distancing should be observed at all times (all creatures living in the same household may sit together)
- ◆ Personal contact like handshaking or hugging (of people) should be avoided; pets may be petted!
- ◆ Hand sanitizing stations should be used
- ◆ Time spent gathered in groups before or after the service should be limited
- ◆ For contact tracing purposes, we will ask for names and telephone numbers for all participants.

We hope to see you on October 10. Please feel free to invite friends or family members. (If it rains, we'll be in the parish hall for individual pet blessings. Stop by any time between 10:30 and 11:00.)



Feeding our First Responders Collingswood Outreach

In August, we once again delivered lunch to the Collingswood Fire and Police Departments to thank them for the continued commitment to serving our community. If you would like to contribute to our next event, please send your donations marked "Feeding First Responders." Many thanks to everyone who has already contributed toward this effort. Please keep all our local Police and Fire Departments in your prayers.

Fall Book Discussion Reading Scott Gunn's "The Way of Love..."

Father Chattin invites you to join him in reading and discussing the book "*The Way of Love – A Practical Guide to Following Jesus*" by The Rev. Scott Gunn. We will meet through both conference line and Zoom. A schedule will be developed based upon the participants' availability. The book costs about \$10. If you would like to be part of this discussion group, please leave a message for Father Chattin on the church voicemail (856) 858-0491, or via email (holytrinity1@verizon.net).



Ditty Bags for Seafarers Supporting the Seaman's Church Institute...

Seafarers in cargo ships come from all over to deliver goods and produce to us. For the past several years, our Mission Impossible Committee, and generous folks from Holy Trinity have worked to bring a little happiness to their lives by donating knitted and baked goods and helping out by supplying items for their Christmas Ditty Bag distribution.

During the pandemic many are working beyond the expiration of their contracts with no idea when they will get home. Please help us thank and encourage them with a ditty bag of small gifts. Full sizes, please for toiletries. Financial donations are welcome.

- Hats & scarves in dark colors
- Shaving cream, razors,
- Work socks, work gloves
- Hand lotion, deodorant
- Playing cards
- Chap Stick
- Shampoo, combs
- Nail clippers
- Pens & writing paper
- Tooth brush & paste
- Mini-sewing kit
- Hard candy, gum, cough drops

Items must be dropped off at the church by the end of October.

Forward Day By Day Daily Devotionals...



Forward Day By Day devotionals have arrived for the months of November through January. If you would like to receive one through the mail please call the office at 856-858-0491 and leave a message for Charlotte or e-mail holytrinity1@verizon.net. (You may also pick one up at the Church.)

Disaster Relief! Helping Those Who Have Lost Everything...

We've all read about the widespread devastation caused by the wildfires on the west coast. We are currently accepting monetary donations to aid in relief efforts near the towns of Medford, Talent, and Ashland, Oregon.

You are welcome to place contributions into the collection basket on Sunday mornings, mail them to the church, or donate online using Vanco. Please mark your donations Disaster Relief. More information to come on this relief effort.

Supporting the Ministry of Holy Trinity... Financial Contributions both Online and via US Mail

We continue to invite your offerings to Holy Trinity either through the US Mail or online via our Vanco account. Just follow the link on the Holy Trinity website (www.holytrinity.us) and send your contribution electronically.

Using either method, you may designate your offering for special purposes such as "Feeding First Responders," "Wildfire Disaster Relief," "Seamen's Church Institute Ditty Bags," and "All Saints All Souls' Day." Thank you all for your continued financial support during these challenging times.