

THE CHIMES

Trinity Episcopal Church
815 N. Grant St.
Bay City, Michigan 48708

August 2020

Volume 23 Issue 7



Greetings Trinity Community,

I hope this finds you well, healthy and enjoying the summer. Much has occurred since the last edition of The Chimes and I'd like to recap.

In June we were informed that our bishop provisional, The Rt. Rev. Whyne Hougland, has been suspended for one year as the result of his involvement in an extra-marital affair with a married woman (he is also married). At the end of the year we (the diocese) will be in conversation as to whether or not to proceed with him as our bishop.

During this period of time the Standing Committee takes on the administrative duties of the Office of Bishop. Neighboring bishops will support us in providing ordinations and confirmations. While this affects the Standing Committee, Diocesan Staff and Diocesan Council, our ministry at the congregational level continues. Please pray for all of them.

We also received notification that all the Episcopal churches in Michigan were entering into Phase II of our own re-entry process. Phase II allows each congregation to determine in what way and when they will open their doors for business and worship. This phase includes strict requirements.

Your Vestry and I determined that for the safety of our congregation we will wait until Phase III to enter Trinity for in-person worship. We deeply miss worshipping with one another, and in our beautiful building, but want to do all we can to keep everyone healthy and safe during this unprecedented situation. There are no published guidelines about when Phase III will commence but most likely it will be in

tandem with the state's reopening. During Phase II it is required that face coverings be worn and that we keep track of each person who enters the building and when they are present. This way if someone is diagnosed, or comes in contact with a person who has COVID-19, they inform us and we contact those who may have been exposed. There are now sign-in sheets, masks, business cards with our cell phone number, and hand sanitizer at each entrance to assist us in this endeavor.

Sadly, we are unable to re-engage in Food of Faith at this time. Our Emergency Food Pantry, like all Bay City food pantries, remains closed. The Dow YMCA continues to fill all emergency food requests in the area, even delivering the food, which is more than our small food pantries can provide.

Our online worship continues and we are now incorporating pre-recorded music into the live stream thanks to Patrick W. and Rayechel. I hope you have found it a comfort.

I want to thank the Vestry for their continued good and faithful work to care well for the community and future of Trinity and to Patrick Gray, Steve Beckert and Rosie Alvarez who handle beautifully all things financial.

"Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen." Hebrews 13:20-21

In Christ's love, *Rev. Sue*

OUR SYMPATHIES

The family of Margaret "Peggy" Finn, who died on July 7, 2020.

Patrick Gray on the death of his cousin, Don Bach, on July 22, 2020.

Hope Shimabukuro on the death of her granddaughter, Carolyn Shimabukuro.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Ann Shea and Archie Duncan on their wedding on July 19, 2020.

The Rev. Ann Grady who has begun a call at St. Christopher's, Grand Blanc as Priest-in-Charge.

THANK YOU

The Rev. Nancy Mayhew for covering all pastoral needs during Rev. Sue's vacation in June.

Elisabeth Campbell for her many years of service on the Altar Guild.

Fred Cook for his years of service on the Endowment Committee.

Steve Beckert for his years of service on the Worship Committee.

Ann Shea for her time on Vestry. Ann resigned to avoid any conflict of interest now that she and Archie are married.

Monica Borrello and Mickie Leibrand who have begun to lead Compline online on Fridays which is Rev. Sue's Sabbath day.

Patrick Winningham and Rayechel Berger for pre-recording music for our Sunday online worship.

The Rev. Curt Norman of St. John's, Saginaw who has helped Rev. Sue with the technology of our online worship.

WORSHIP ONLINE

Facebook and YouTube live stream: Trinity Episcopal Church Bay City
Sunday 10:00am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 11:30am Morning Prayer

Daily 9:00pm Compline

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

If you have someone you would like to add to one of our prayer lists, please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469 (cell) and we will make sure this happens. We have our regular prayer list, those diagnosed with COVID-19, those recovering from COVID-19, those whose work puts them at risk for exposure to COVID-19, and the dearly departed. When letting us know, please include their name, relationship to you, reason, and how long (30 days, 90 days, permanent).

WORSHIP RESOURCES ON LOAN

If you would like to borrow a [Book of Common Prayer](#) or [Hymnal 1982](#), please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469 (cell) and we will get it/them to you.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY

The August/September/October edition of Forward Day By Day meditation booklets are available (large print, too). If you would like a copy sent to you please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469 (cell) and we will get it to you.

VIDEO MEETING RESOURCE AVAILABLE

If you would like to set up a group meeting or fun get-together using our videoconferencing Zoom account contact Rev. Sue at revsuerich@gmail.com or trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or 989-326-0469 (cell).

CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for your continued financial support of Trinity. We continue to receive your contributions and are grateful. Your Finance Committee and Vestry continue to work diligently to utilize all resources available to us during this unprecedented time.

Ways to provide us with your contributions:

- Write and mail a check to Trinity
- IRA contribution

- Go to www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org, click on the online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage.

DIOCESAN DIRECTIVE FOR RE-ENTRY

If you would like to read the updated directive provided to all Episcopal churches in the state of Michigan you can go to www.eastmich.org/coronavirus/ and scroll down to “PLAN FOR RE-ENTRY FOR GREAT LAKES EPISCOPALIANS”. You can also call us at 989-326-0469 (cell) and have a hard copy mailed to you. (As of July 31, a new recommendation, in light of the governor’s executive order on the same date, strongly recommends that we limit gatherings to no more than 10 people.)

RESOURCES FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

- Mental Health Hotline 10am-2pm daily. 888-733-7753
- Disaster Distress Hotline. 800-985-5990
- Free mindfulness meditation website. www.headspace.com/mi
- Free digital lessons focused on developing social, emotional and well-being skills, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. www.michiganvirtual.org/michigancares
- Michigan Sexual Assault Hotline (talk/text/chat). 855-VOICES4
- Domestic Violence Hotline. 800-799-SAFE

COMMUNICATION

- Weekly communications – if you have not been receiving weekly emails or USPS mailings and would like to do so, please send an email to trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469 (cell) and we will get you on the appropriate list.
- Online directory – all members of Trinity have access to our online directory which contains pictures and contact information. If you are not yet

connected, please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469 (cell) or Pat Maxim.

REV’S SUE’S EMAIL

Rev. Sue’s email has been hacked. Although she has changed her password her email addresses were taken. DO NOT reply to any suspicious emails with her name attached, she will NEVER ask you to provide gift cards or other monetary needs via email. The offender has created an alternate email address with her name attached. Her correct email is revsuerich@gmail.com.

BUILDING UPDATES

- New touchless towel dispensers have been purchased and installed.
- A scanner has been purchased and bar codes for each member have been created to assist in keeping track of attendance (when we come back for in-person worship).
- A touchless thermometer has been purchased.
- We have changed alarm system companies.
- Terry Oliver continues to deep clean the church. He’s even put multiple coats of lemon oil on the wood.
- All books and cushions in the pews have been temporarily removed from the church.

PARISH HALL FLOOR

Our Parish Hall floor needs updating and now is the perfect time to do this. The project has been quoted at \$8,000. An anonymous donor has agreed to match dollar for dollar every donation up to \$4,000! If you would like to contribute to this project above and beyond your 2020 contribution commitment, please write your check to Trinity Episcopal Church and put “Parish Hall floor” in the memo. You may also give by going to www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org, click on the

online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage. As of this printing we already have \$600 committed of the \$4,000 needed.

Trinity Church
Her People, Her Building
Then and Now

*Sacred Geometry – The
Meaning of Numbers*

All of life and creation itself are sacred and in the Judeo-Christian tradition even numbers are no exception to sacred meaning and symbolism. Here, we thank the scholarship of Richard Stemp, English art historian and author of *The Secret Language of Churches and Cathedrals – Decoding the Sacred Symbolism of Christianity’s Holy Buildings* (Duncan Baird Publishers; London, 2010). Below, a table from page 107 of his work illumines our hearts and minds.

1. God.
2. The natures of Christ: human and divine.
3. The Holy Trinity; the threefold division of the Earth (Europe, Africa and Asia); the Magi; three theological virtues: faith hope and charity.
4. The Evangelists; elements (earth, air, fire and water); cardinal virtues; cardinal points (north, south, east and west); Doctors of the Church.
5. The wounds of Christ (one in each hand and foot, and one in the chest).
6. The number of days in which God created the world.
7. The days of the week; heavenly bodies (sun, moon and five then-known planets); notes of the scale in music; virtues; liberal arts; deadly sins; Acts of Mercy; Gifts of the Holy Spirit; and many other symbolic associations.
8. The “octavo dies” or eighth day – the last everlasting day in heaven; a number of regeneration or rebirth.
9. Choirs of angels; and circles of hell.
10. The Commandments.
11. Rarely, if ever, used, but the number of apostles after the Resurrection.
12. Apostles; tribes of Israel; months of the year; gates of the New Jerusalem.

It should be no surprise that Trinity Church also has many opportunities to view and ponder the sacred symbolism of numbers.

The Baptismal Font, dating to 1870 and gift from the Sunday School Scholars with their penny offerings has eight sides, eight being the number of regeneration and rebirth; also, that eight people were spared in the Flood – Noah, his wife and their three sons and daughters-in-law. The two candles on the Altar remind us of the dual nature of Jesus Christ, human and divine. In the church’s stained glass we see seven stars in Mary’s halo in the Magnificat window referring to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, while in the Epiphany window we see twelve stars in Mary’s halo making reference to the twelve tribes of Israel. In the Crucifixion carving in the reredos above the High Altar look for the five wounds of Jesus showing us His great love.

After the Good News of Jesus Christ, crucified, risen and returning, may we cease not in the priesthood of learning. To God be praise and glory!

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild

Sacred Geometry at Trinity Church



The 1870 octagonal Baptismal Font

Detail from the High Altar of the trefoil and triangle reminding us of the Triune God



The Historical Guild



Birthdays

Allison Iannacchione
Sharon O'Hare
Sean O'Hare
Wyatt York
Tony Hunsberger
Guy Moulthrop
James Swanson
Dean Anker
Florence Reynolds
W Taylor Langstaff Jr
Leo Borrello
Katie Hunsberger
Corrine Salazar
Barbara Mulholland
Shelley Whitehead

Anniversaries

Ben and Amy Denay
Terrence and Sharon O'Hare
Thomas H and Julie Tabor
Dan and Sarah Keeler



Team Trinity played in the United Way golf outing at Maple Leaf last Friday, July 24th. We didn't win any prizes but shot a par in the scramble and had a fun time. The players were Shelley Whitehead, Sue Hoyle, Lynne Staszek and Dee Mulholland. Lynn filled in for the team so we had a four some.



Compete for the crown

The apostle Paul compares the Christian life to running a race for an imperishable crown.

Directions: From the starting line through the finish line, circle every third letter. Then place the circled letters in order in the blanks below to complete 1 Corinthians 9:24-25, NIV.

START

c t r e j a s u c p h e l n p o m r x k i b v z t a e j a r g i u s o n y c c w
 e
 i q s a t e x y m p s a k o g m z s j e e u b t n y e h a p i d m r f o
 e
 t e g r b u a n p i c d n o f i h m n e y g j o c s x r d p o e t w k i n

FINISH

“Do you not know that in a _____ all the runners run, but only one gets the _____? _____ in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who _____ in the _____ goes into strict _____ . They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a _____ that will last forever.”

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-25, NIV

Answer: race, prize, run, competes, games, training, crown



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