



The Tidings

A Monthly Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
& School

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Inviting, Welcoming, & Connecting people to God and one another in Christ.

Holy Trinity is a warm, welcoming, and Christ-centered community for all
to belong, blossom, and bless.

July 2026

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Happy July Anniversary To:

- 1 - Bob & Liz Mustin
- 11 - Rob & Kristen McKevitt
- 19 - Tom & Pam Hulsey
- 26 - Roger & Nancy Wilcox

Happy July Birthday To:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Janice Haake | 24 - Robin Brown |
| 2 - Sheri Hudson | 24 - Judy Huetz |
| 4 - Connie Nelson | 25 - Liam Knowles |
| 8 - Janell Bromeisl | 27 - Carol Mullen |
| 12 - John Rodenbaugh | 30 - Doris Brennan |
| 16 - Cassie Journigan | 31 - Jordan Tuller |
| 17 - Sherry (Peggy) Schroll | |
| 18 - Jane Kelly | |
| 19 - Rose Nsengiyumva | |

The Tidings is a forum for sharing information and ideas beneficial to our parish life & mission. Please send all contributions for the Newsletter to: office@holytrinityfp.com. Please submit articles for the August Issue by **Monday, July 27, 2026**.

From the Rector



What is a Sabbatical?

By Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

As many of you are aware, I will be going away for a mini-sabbatical from July 8 to September 8. Many of you may be wondering what a sabbatical is and why such an extended time of absence. Below is a description by AI: In the Episcopal Church, a sabbatical is a planned, extended period of leave (usually 2 to 4 months) granted to clergy or lay professionals for spiritual, theological, and vocational renewal. Often included in employment agreements, they typically occur after 5 to 7 years of service and are fully paid. Sabbaticals in the Episcopal tradition are designed as an extended "Sabbath". They aim to prevent burnout and provide an opportunity for deep rest, study, and reflection.

One of the realities one discovers with age, is the need for rest. As a young priest, I did not think I needed a sabbatical. That is why it took me 14 years of full-time parish ministry without taking one. It has now been 13 years since I took the only sabbatical of my professional life. Since I did not have a chance to take one in my previous parish where I served 6.5 years, I began to feel a need for deep rest as soon as I completed 5 years of service here at Holy Trinity.

The focus of my upcoming sabbatical will be deep rest and reflection. I feel a need for physical, mental, and emotional rest as well as reflection on my vocation past 65. Much of the time will be spent in Rwanda where I hope to spend quality time with my siblings, extended family, and long-time friends. It will be a form of reunion as we gather for my daughter's wedding. On our way back from Rwanda, we will join our US and Canadian friends for our annual family retreat in Ohio. We hope to be back in Fruitland Park on Monday September 7.

While I am Gone

The most frequent question many have been asking is who will be responsible for all the things that I normally do as your rector. Thankfully, plans are already in place for who will do what. As rector, I have ordained

ministry and administrative responsibilities. Administrative roles will be handled by the wardens (Senior or Junior Warden) with assistance from office staff, while ordained ministry responsibilities will be handled by our resident clergy and supply clergy. A Sunday worship schedule has been made that will have the Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes, the Rev. Dr. Jamie Jones, the Rev. Janet Richardson, and the Rev. Ted Koelln as celebrants and preachers on assigned Sundays. Our faithful Pastoral Care team led by Mrs. Robin Michell will handle all pastoral needs not requiring an ordained person, and in collaboration with the Senior Warden, be responsible for finding a clergy person as needed. For any issues that would require my input, I will be easily accessible by phone or email through our office administrator or the Senior Warden.

It is my belief that the plans we have put in place will allow our ministry to proceed smoothly during my absence. Please for Rose and I as we take this much needed rest and for those who will be assuming most of my regular responsibilities during my absence.

Best wishes for a blessed and restful summer!

From the Senior Warden



FR. SAMUEL'S MINI-SABBATICAL:

As previously announced, Fr. Samuel is scheduled for a 2-month mini-sabbatical from **July 8-September 8, 2026**. During his absence The Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes, The Rev. Dr. Jamie Jones, The Rev. Janet Richardson, and the Rev. Ted Koelln have agreed to celebrate and preach on assigned Sundays. However, our Wednesday Healing Service will be suspended until Fr. Samuel's return. All Pastoral Care needs will be directed to the Pastoral Care team. Please refer to the next page for contact information. Please be informed that while Fr. Samuel will be traveling abroad, he will remain reachable via phone (WhatsApp) or email.

Light the Path Thrift Store

At the June 18, 2026 Vestry meeting the Thrift Store Task Force Head, Dennis Ritchie, reported on progress preparing the Thrift Store for opening. For starters he confirmed that Head of School, Becca Coulter signed the lease agreement, a business bank account has been opened, building signs are being prepared, and information about the School's Thrift Store will soon be broadcast to other community churches and various publications.

Unfortunately, Dennis also reported that in the course of making some minor building renovations, a termite problem was discovered in the bathroom and rear entrance door frame, which will delay the scheduled soft opening by a short period of time, most likely around or after July 4. To be absolutely clear, since we are operating under a lease agreement, the owner of the property has agreed to take full responsibility for the cost of mitigating the termite problem.

In the meantime, the good news is, we now have a Thrift Store Manager on the payroll: Patrick Leclerc. Let me tell you, I've met him, and in my opinion, he is the right person in the right place at the right time. He has a positive attitude, clear vision, and a solid background well suited to this position. "We will need the support of the community to make this a success for these kids," Patrick says. Everyone is welcome, and donations of furniture items are now accepted.

Vestry & Ministry Meetings

Your ministry teams and vestry members are dedicated to serving God, and their meetings offer opportunities for you to connect personally with your fellow parishioners and strengthen the church's bond in service to our Lord. We would be honored and delighted if you could attend any of our ministry meetings to ask questions and share your inputs. For the dates and times of our ministry meetings, please contact Gisselle in the church office at (352) 787-1500.

There's a lot happening this month, so make sure to check out all the articles in this month's Tidings. In particular, I'd like to draw your attention to Judy Gygi's input on the Invite, Welcome, and Connect (IWC) process.

For Pastoral Care we welcome you to contact:

1. Robin Michell (203)512-1734 | RobinMichell@yahoo.com

If Robin is not available:

2. Karen Hammen (262)617-9641 | Karen_Hammen@yahoo.com

3. Rob Soeldner (978)895-6937 | rmsoeldner@gmail.com

Types of requests/needs include Last Rites, Sudden Death, Ministration to the Sick, Home/Hospital Visitation, Non-emergencies, Prayer shawls, Homebound Communion, etc.

If you don't receive a response in a timely manner, please call the church office Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm and Gisselle will reach out accordingly.

352-787-1500 | office@holytrinityfp.com

Ministry News

STAMPS FOR ANNETTE

Hello Everyone,

I want to encourage you all to save and then bring in your canceled STAMPS off your mail. Please put them in my new Stamp Collection Box. It is located on the table in the Parish Hall. I need to give thanks to my friend, Joan Ballard for getting this new box for me. She did this after I told her my last box disappeared.



Just either cut your stamps off the envelope or tear them off. Please leave a little room around each stamp as you remove it from the envelope.

I send these stamps up to Dunn Loring, VA for the Wounded Warriors Project. Our Veterans use the stamps in art projects, to put in stamp collector books or to help them with occupational therapy. I have spoken to people there about this project and they could not stress enough what receiving these stamps mean to our Veterans who are in the VA Hospital healing or are in rehab working on their recovery.

I know currently several people do bring these stamps in for me and I thank you. I just want to invite everyone to be a part of this.

Questions, reach out to me: net389@aol.com or 352-406-7608.

Many Thanks, Annette Freeman

Recipes by Pat Fleming

Garlic Mayo Bread

1 loaf french or Italian Bread
6 cloves garlic minced
3/4 cup mayonnaise

1/2 cup salted butter melted
1 1/2 cups mozzarella shredded
1 cup Parmesan cheese

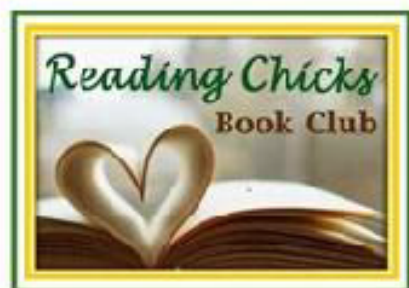
Slice bread either in half long ways or into slices

Mix together butter, garlic and mayonnaise spread on bread
sprinkle with cheeses

wrap in aluminum foil and bake for 10 minutes at 400

Remove from oven and open foil, broil for 5 minutes





WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

DATES AND BOOKS

- Monthly (4th Friday) 2:00 - 4:00 PM
- Rotating locations in hostess homes

Date	Book	Author
5/22/26	Island of Sea Women	Lisa See
6/26/26	The Personal Librarian	Marie Benedict
7/24/26	Twelve Extraordinary Women: How God Shaped Women of the Bible and What He Wants to Do with You	John MacArthur
8/28/26	Girl with a Pearl Earring	Tracy Chevalier
9/25/26	Ordinary Grace	William Kent Krueger
10/23/26	When Breath Becomes Air	Paul Kalanithi
<i>No meeting in Nov. due to Thanksgiving Holiday</i>		
12/11/26*	The Briar Club	Kate Quinn
1/22/27	The Frozen River	Ariel Lawhon
2/26/27	The Great Alone	Kristin Hannah
3/26/27	Killing England	Bill O'Rielly

**special date for holiday celebration in Parish Hall*

Plan ahead to join us!

Friends are always welcome

Light the Path Golf Benefit 2026: Sign up online: HolyTrinitySchoolGolf.com OR grab a paper flyer from Parish Hall. First come, first served.

A flyer for the 'Light the Path Golf Benefit 2026' set against a background of a golf course. On the left, a silhouette of a golfer is shown mid-swing. The flyer includes several text boxes: 'Thank you to our Event Sponsor: BLACKSTON FINANCIAL ADVISORY GROUP YOUR TOTAL ADVISORS' with a logo; 'JOIN US! OCT. 19, 2026'; a graphic with '1+1=2' and 'YOUR DOLLAR MATCHING DOLLAR TWICE THE IMPACT'; the Holy Trinity Episcopal School logo; the title 'LIGHT THE PATH GOLF BENEFIT' in large green and yellow letters; a subtitle 'Proceeds will provide financial aid to students with learning differences.'; a 'Deadline: 10/04/26' box; and a call to action 'We hope to count on your support!'. A golf ball is shown in the bottom right corner.

Thank you to our Event Sponsor:
BLACKSTON FINANCIAL ADVISORY GROUP
YOUR TOTAL ADVISORS

JOIN US!
OCT. 19, 2026

1+1=2
YOUR DOLLAR MATCHING DOLLAR TWICE THE IMPACT

Holy Trinity Episcopal School

LIGHT THE PATH GOLF BENEFIT

Proceeds will provide financial aid to students with learning differences.

Deadline:
10/04/26

We hope to count on your support!

Thoughts for the Soul

“If Jesus had preached the same message that ministers preach today, He would never be crucified.” Leonard Ravenhill

“You know when a man is going up in a balloon, he takes in sand as a ballast and when he wants to mount a little higher, he throws out a little of the ballast, and then he will mount a little higher; he throws out a little more ballast and he mounts still higher; and the higher he gets the more he throws out – and so the nearer we get to God the more we have to throw out of the things of this world. Let go of them; do not let us first set our hearts and affections on them, but do what the Master tells us – lay up for ourselves treasure in heaven.”
D.L. Moody

Wednesday Bible Study & Sunday School: Our Wednesday Bible Study and Sunday School are now on summer hiatus but will return in the Fall.

10:30 HOSPITALITY MINISTER NEEDED:

Volunteers are needed to host the Hospitality Hour on the following Sundays: **8/16, 8/30, 9/6, 9/13**. A signup sheet will be posted in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who is able and willing to help.

THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are looking for volunteers to help on **Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays 10am-2pm**. Volunteer duties include cleaning, organizing, and pricing. 1, 2, 3 hours or more, everything helps! Please contact our store manager, Patrick patheatfl@gmail.com if you can help. We are also ready to receive donations of furniture and other high value items.

Vestry News

June 2026 Vestry Highlights

The Vestry met for their monthly meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2026, to discuss matters of importance to the life and mission of our church.

1. The Vestry heard a report by Dennis Ritchie (Task-Force Team Leader) regarding the Thrift Store. He reported that despite significant progress, unforeseen issues related to termites and service delay by some providers had caused some delay. As of his reporting the Termite issues in the bathrooms and rear door frame were being resolved, the air conditioner had been replaced, the lease agreement had been signed, and a bank account had been opened. New signs were being prepared, and two sheds are available for short-term storage. Information about the store will be out soon to other community churches and in various publications.
2. The Vestry heard from Fr. Samuel regarding his upcoming sabbatical. Supply clergy lists for Sunday services were distributed. The Senior Warden (not the supply priests) is in charge in the absence of the rector, and should be informed of any issues that arise. In the absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden is next in line.
3. The Vestry heard from the Junior Warden regarding the following issues:
 - Bids for power for the new sign are being requested
 - The cross at the entrance of the cemetery was destroyed by termites. Suggestions for a possible replacement will be considered by the B&G Committee for a recommendation.
4. The Vestry heard recommendations from the Invite Welcome Connect committee and voted to implement the following procedures:
 - a new guest parking spot will be designated near the entrance to the church
 - church doors will be wide open 15 minutes prior to each worship service
 - now that we have a digital sign, the black announcement sign near the road will be relocated to the front of the church for special announcements and information about the church
5. The Vestry heard a report from Peter Coughlin regarding continuing plans for the 140th anniversary. Articles/ads in the Daily Sun will be placed most likely in August. The Fest on Nov 7 will include the Mystic Ice Cream truck. A possible tea or function at Rose Plantation was discussed. It was noted that the Bishop will be unable to attend our January celebration.

6. The vestry heard a report about the school. There are several staff transitions occurring at the school, including a counselor position ((likely with a background in social work) and a new secretary. Three school graduates will continue on in the Transition Program. A grant request for the school is working its way through the state government. There is a potential donation of a modular building for the school from a facility in Ocala, but the timing is not yet set. Finally, the incorporation of the school as a separate legal entity will be the sole topic of an upcoming joint Vestry-School Board meeting, perhaps the third week in September as either a replacement for or in addition to the regular vestry meeting.

7. The Vestry reviewed and approved the Treasurer's Report. He noted that pledges are ahead of schedule and doing well. Expenditures are slightly higher, with three payrolls in May, but the budget is within acceptable range. The report was approved as reported.

8. The rector reported that we are seeing continued growth in generosity, attendance, and other expressions of growth. He attributed the growth to the significant contributions by most of our newest members.

9. The next Vestry meeting will be August 20 (no meeting in July).

Beyond Holy Trinity

Used Laptops & Smartphones

If you have a used smartphone/laptop you don't need, please consider donating it to Taraja Resource Network, Inc. Taraja is a non-profit organization founded by Fr. Samuel that seeks to break the cycle of poverty in the African Great Lakes Region through education, micro-enterprise, mentoring and networking. One of the ways Taraja helps poor students in Rwanda and Uganda is by donating new or used laptops/smartphones to help them with online research. If you have a used one you can donate, please let Fr. Samuel know. Smartphones must be unlocked from the original carrier, reset to factory settings and where applicable, removed from the owner's Apple account.

SALVATION ARMY FOOD DONATIONS If you would like to help, the Outreach committee is asking you all to contribute to the Salvation Army food bank by making deposits of nonperishable food in the Little Red Wagon at the front of the church on Sundays. Thank you!



Contact Information

Clergy

The Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva – Rector

rector@holytrinityfp.com

Cell: 920-226-0050

The Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes –

Assisting Priest

janice.gordonbarnes@yahoo.com

The Rev. Dr. James Jones – Assisting Priest

jamesjones1454@outlook.com

The Rev. Charlie Perrin – Deacon

charlie-perrin@outlook.com

The Rev. Dick LaBud – Deacon

rjlabud@gmail.com

Staff:

Gisselle Martinez – Office Admin.

Kathy Wolfe - Bookkeeper

Sharon Redding – Music Director

Lori Clark – Housekeeping

Becca Coulter, Head of School

bcoulter@htepiscopalschool.org

Seth Trees, HTES Operations Coordinator

strees@htespiscopalschool.org

Contact Information:

Email: office@holytrinityfp.com

Website: <https://www.holytrinityfp.com/>

FB: www.facebook.com/holytrinityfruitlandpark

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

In-Person & Livestream Services:

Saturday 4:15pm (Sanctuary) (Nov-April)

Sunday 8:00am (Sanctuary)

Sunday 10:30am (Sanctuary)(FBLive)

Wednesday Healing 11:30am (Chapel)(FBLive)

Vestry:

Jim Kelly – Sr. Warden

jimkelly8143@gmail.com | 913-558-2636

Elizabeth Knowles – Jr. Warden

ejknowles61@yahoo.com | 352-504-7360

Russ Casson - Treasurer

rfcasson@embarqmail.com | 352-255-2234

Mark Welton - Clerk

markwelton72@gmail.com | 845-220-6206

Karen Hammen

karen_hammen@yahoo.com | 262-617-9641

Judy Monin

moninjudy@gmail.com | 440-725-0973

Judy Gygi

jgygi2876@gmail.com | 407-461-5647

Ed Hankwitz

ehankz@hotmail.com | 352-431-0921

Scott Pennington

skypilot513@yahoo.com | 352-396-9984

Ministry Leaders Contact Info:

If you wish to be involved in any of these roles, please contact the ministry leaders

Worship Assistants

Pat Casson: 352-406-9586

Twofus9600@aol.com

Altar Guild

Dianne Casson: 352-787-

0508

dcasson@embarqmail.com

Adult Sunday School

Ron Whetsell: 817-368-4618

rwhetsell04@yahoo.com

Bible Study

Rob Soeldner: 978-895-6937

rmsoeldner@gmail.com

Choir- Sharon Redding

352-267-6990

sredding10@comcast.net

Invite Welcome Connect

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Outreach

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jimkelly8143@gmail.com

Men's Group

Sid Yee: 703-966-2615

sidney1949yee@gmail.com

Holy Hackers

Dave Aldrich: 203-258-9643

aldrichkp@gmail.com