

The Tidings



2201 Spring Lake Rd.
Fruitland Park, FL 34731

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HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL
CHURCH & SCHOOL
Belong. Blossom. Bless.

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Happy July Anniversary To:



1 - Bob & Liz Mustin
19 - Tom & Pam Hulsey
26 - Roger & Nancy Wilcox

Happy July Birthday To:



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





Rector's Message

Do Not Be Conformed

By Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

As we settle into our summer rhythm, with less church programming and some travel for vacations or family events, it is important to not forget who we are and what we are about. Wherever we may be or do, we need to remember our identity, our purpose, our perspectives, and our priorities.

One of the most helpful scripture passages is 2 Corinthians 5:17:

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come." (NIV). What this passage clearly says is that some kind of change happens when someone believes and decides to follow Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of his/her life. Some changes may be instant while others may be gradual.

A New Identity

The first change that happens when we believe and accept Jesus as Savior and Lord of our lives is our identity. St. John clearly tells us that *"All who received him, to those who believed in his name; he gave the right to become children of God."* (John 1:12). Some will obviously argue that since we are all created in the image of God, we are children of God regardless of whether or what we believe. In a way they are right, but not in the sense that St. John and the apostles understood it. It is very true that God loves all humanity. The problem is that sin has estranged humanity from God. Through faith in Jesus the Christ, we are reconciled to God and restored to that original status as God's children; not just his creatures.

A New Purpose

The second change that happens is our purpose for being. St. Paul referring to the change that occurs says that *"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation..."* (2 Cor. 5:18). Peter puts it even more beautifully: *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."* (1 Peter 2:9). Once we are in Christ, we no longer live for ourselves alone but for God and his purposes in the world.

A New Perspective

With a new identity and a new purpose, a new perspective begins to emerge. We begin to look at ourselves and others not from a worldly point of view (2 Cor. 5:16), but from Christ's point of view. Unfortunately, this change is often slower than one would wish. Indeed that's why many non-Christians accuse Christians of hypocrisy. Our perspectives are often very far from Christ's perspective and very much like everyone else's. We need to examine our perspectives and our attitudes to ensure that they are consistent with our new identity and purpose.

New Priorities

With a new understanding of who we are and what we are about, it should be obvious that our priorities would also change. This is true for many Christians but certainly not all. The way we spend our money, time, and any other resources God has blessed us with does not always reflect who we claim to be. Our priorities should reflect our love for God and one another.

During this summer season, may we be careful not to be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds, so that we may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2). Whatever context we find ourselves in, may we strive to be salt and light. (Matthew 5:13-16).

Have a blessed Summer!

For Pastoral Care we encourage you to contact:

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Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

(902)226-0050 | rector@holytrinityfp.com

OR call the church office Monday-Thursday during office hours.

Melbourne, Florida, to share valuable insights and expertise. This innovative program is meticulously designed to equip our church with specialized tools that will empower us to engage in the profound work of evangelism. I highly encourage you to secure your spot for this pivotal presentation.

Last month, I provided you with an update on the review conducted by the Vestry regarding the 2025 Vestry Diocesan Training Material. Based on the findings of this study, your Vestry has developed a prioritized list of over 30 action items, and Vestry member work has already begun to yield positive results.

- Following the advice of the Church Insurance Agent, the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and the approval of our Vestry, we have increased our church's insurance policy deductible, resulting in an annual insurance premium reduction of \$897.00.
- Other financial initiatives include moving a portion of our church funds into a secure, higher-return account.
- On the administrative side, our Ministry Manual is in the process of being updated and refined to provide the parish easier access and understanding of each ministry role and responsibilities.

Senior Warden's Report



The Invite Welcome and Connect ministry, led by Judy Gygi, is thrilled to announce the date and our esteemed guest speakers for the presentation of the Episcopal Churches'

newly envisioned Invite Welcome and Connect program. Join us on Saturday, November 15, 2025, as we welcome Cynthia Brust, the Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in

- The other thing you may have noticed was the introduction of a Welcome Table in the parish hall. The focus of this initiative is on guests/newcomers being greeted by vestry members who will respond to what information guests/newcomers may want about the church by providing handouts and materials in response to their needs on the first couple of visits.

Although there is no formal Vestry meeting scheduled for the month of July, with God's inspiration and help, our work will continue on our 2025 Diocesan Vestry Training action item list this summer.

All your ministry teams and Vestry members are dedicated to serving Christ. Their meetings provide opportunities for you to personally connect with your fellow parishioners and foster a stronger bond within the church. We would be honored and delighted if you could consider attending any of these meetings and providing your input. For dates and times of ministry meetings, please contact Gisselle in the church office at (352) 787-1500.

Jim Kelly, *Sr. Warden*

Treasurer's Report

May 2025

Contributions	Actual	Budget
Pledges	\$23,165	\$27,668
Other Income	<u>\$ 1,060</u>	<u>\$ 3,625</u>
Total	\$24,225	\$31,293
Expenses	\$32,357	\$31,293

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalms 50:14

Russ Casson, Treasurer

Banquet Silent Auction

Many, many thanks to all who donated and purchased items at the Silent Auction on May 19th. The school made over **\$5,500** on the auction. Also, thanks to all whose prayers and well wishes have been a great comfort through my recent knee surgery.

Naomi Aldrich

Ministry Spotlight: Buildings & Grounds

I've always loved exploring old churches and graveyards. Even as a young child, such holy spots drew me so surely that avoiding their call left a pain in my heart. Even old Antebellum ghosts of churches buried deep in the woods.

So of course, I could not deny the call to worship at Holy Trinity Church. The crisp, white building with its steep roof and red doors sent out an undeniable welcome. I would soon discover this was matched by the charisma of the parishioners who filled the pews every Sunday.

Such purity as is found at our church and grounds requires constant and faithful upkeep. Those called to this ministry are often unsung heroes. I'm a cradle Episcopalian, but I never knew that the responsibility for the church building and grounds was a duty given to the vestry's Junior Warden. We are blessed with Steve Knowles serving us in that role. His family has a long rich history at Holy Trinity – in fact, ancestors of his are among the church's founders. Some are buried in the graveyard beside the church.

Steve loves the ministry to which he has been elected, and considers it to be a great honor. He infuses his role with a passionate

love for God and for the building that holds His faithful. Of his duties, Steve says, “This is labor of love. I approach my duties with whatever time and effort is needed.”



Figure 1- Steve & Elizabeth Knowles point to a photo in the glass case in Parish Hall. Taken in 1926, parishioners are gathered for Sunday tea at Fair Oaks, the family ancestral home.

Many are the tasks the junior warden must attend to. The projects can involve major repair – such as the leak with the graveyard sprinkler system

(an expert was called in for the heavy lifting).

They present as

minor jobs. Steve said, “Like the light hanging over the altar. It took three of us to figure out how to do it!”

Steve is grateful for those who heed the call to help. Two previous junior wardens, Bob Freeman and Randy Siver, lend considerable time and knowledge. “I couldn't have two better guys to call on. They're dedicated.”

Steve is also thankful for the volunteers who help maintain the campus. “It's a team effort. We are blessed with a great group of people working on the buildings and grounds. They are all proud of our church.”

(Speaking of which, Randy Siver says we're in urgent need of people to help with mowing lawns, and perhaps even adding bushes and flowers. If you wish to help, you can speak to Randy, Steve, Father Samuel or Gisselle.)

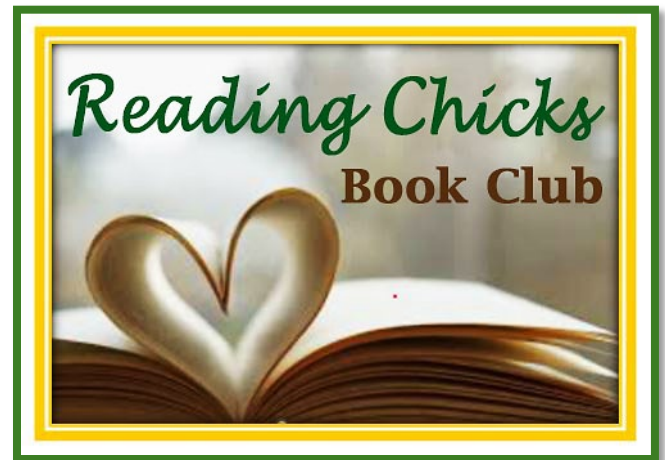
Steve wants everyone to feel they have a say in matters of both church and grounds. He says, “It's important to listen to what people have to say. We have a spreadsheet in the parish hall by the doors for people to contribute their ideas and concerns. We're all stakeholders here. Everyone has the right to be heard,” he emphasized.

Steve's guiding principal, his vision for Holy Trinity: “We love everyone. We're not here to judge. That's God's job. We have a very welcoming campus and try to keep it that way. We want the people who come to feel they are welcome.”

Yes, and if we heed Jesus's call, maybe some will feel welcome to stay.

Cassie Journigan

Women's Book Club



We are excited to announce the launch of a women's book club at Holy Trinity, *Reading Chicks!* It is designed to be an opportunity to come together in a relaxed and welcoming way to connect, build new friendships, and strengthen existing ones. We will gather informally to share thoughts and experiences around books of various genres while enjoying snacks and beverages. Our hope is to have rotating hostesses.

Here's the info for our first meeting:

- **Date:** Thurs, July 10th at 3pm
- **Place:** Deb & Sid Yee's,
1002 Pickering Path, The Villages
- **Book:** The Women by Kristen
Hannah *

What to expect:

- We'll start by introducing ourselves
- We'll have an open discussion about the book
- We'll enjoy snacks and beverages (coffee/tea, lemonade, wine)
- We'll plan our next meeting and select the next book!

RSVP to Deb Yee debkhogan@gmail.com or 703-472-1573

Please reply by **July 5th** so we have a head-count.

* Available at Amazon, Walmart, Barnes & Noble, libraries (paperback incl. large print, audiobook, eBook/digital)

Planned Giving & Holy Trinity's Endowment

Planned Giving is an opportunity for anyone who wishes to include our church in their estate plan (or lifetime gift) as part of a lasting endowment for the long-term mission of our church. Our endowment is managed by the Episcopal Church Foundation and supervised by our Planned Giving Committee and Vestry. It is governed by Florida law to ensure careful and wise management. We have pamphlets available in the parish hall that will give you more information. You may talk to Mark Welton, the Planned Giving "Shepherd" for the program, or any members of our Endowment Committee: Mike Browne, Parker Bauer, and Paul Harmon.

HTEC School Tutor Program

If you or someone you know wants to make a difference in a child's life, please call (913) 558-2636 or email

jimkelly8143@gmail.com. No formal academic certification is required. Tutor training and instructional materials provided. Snowbirds welcome! *Jim Kelly, Tutor Program Coord.*

Prayer Lists

Prayer is the primary way we express our love & concern for one another. Our clergy & Pastoral care team are eager to pray for anyone in need. We maintain two prayer lists: Urgent & Long-Term Needs. The Urgent List is for people going through a crisis moment in their lives such as hospitalization, life-threatening diagnosis, death in the family, etc. The Long-term list is for those who are getting better but still facing challenges related to illness or other adversity. Names on the urgent list are included in the Sunday morning Prayers of the People, while names on both lists are prayed for by name at the Wednesday Healing Service and by individual intercessors. Responsibility for maintaining such a robust intercessory prayer list requires regular review and updates. Gisselle is maintaining a spread sheet with the names being prayed for, names of those submitting prayer requests, and date names were submitted. When appropriate, we would love to know the reason someone is being added to the prayer list so we may know what to pray for. We wish to review and update the lists monthly. If we do not receive updates, names on the urgent list will be moved to the long-term list automatically after one month. Please review any names you have submitted & provide Gisselle with updates so we can begin to refresh our prayer lists. Thank you for your understanding! -Fr. Samuel

2026 Golf Benefit

Registration for the 2025 Golf Benefit is now open! **To register, fill out a flyer located in Parish Hall and turn it in to the office, or visit HolyTrinitySchoolGolf.com to register online.** If you would like to volunteer to help with this year's benefit, contact Gisselle or sign up in the Parish Hall. We need volunteers to help with different aspects of the event.

Contest Prizes

Looking over Judy Monin's extensive records, it is clear that many people donated to the Golf Benefit cause in the past. Your generosity is remarkable for instance, in helping to provide attractive prizes for the players. Any donations received will be applied to the following contests in the tournament:

- Longest Drive- Men
- Longest Drive- Women
- Most Accurate Drive-Men
- Most Accurate Drive-Women
- Putting Contest

Prizes we have so far:

- Closest to the Pin- Dinner for Two at Paulie's Oaks (single use)
- Hole in One- Dinner for Two for 52 WEEKS at Paulie's Oaks (to be used once a week)

The above items donated by Paulie Villareal

Prizes help set the HTES tournament apart!

OTHER

Liquor Basket, Wine Basket, Lottery Board Dunkin Donuts & Coffee (7am) for the golfers at registration

Logo golf-balls- each player gets a sleeve of Holy Trinity golf balls

Remember: Donations of \$200, \$300, and \$500 earn a hole sponsor sign. And all donations are matched 1:1.

Thanks for all your help! -Jerry Huetz, *Golf Benefit Coordinator*, 802-233-3445

match donations!
1+1=2

SAVE THE DATE!
MONDAY, OCT. 20, 2025

LIGHT THE PATH

2025 SCHOOL GOLF BENEFIT

8:30 am shotgun start

Help us set our students on a brighter path!

SCAN NOW

Continental Country Club
71 Continental Blvd
Wildwood FL 34785

CPR/AED Training Aug. 12



We will be hosting a CPR/AED course on **Tuesday, August 12 from 1:30pm-4:00pm in the Parish Hall**. During this class you will learn how to safely recognize a Sudden-Cardiac-Arrest (SCA) victim, experience hands on practice with manikins and AED trainers, and learn the Heimlich maneuver for infants, children and adults. Certification is not provided with this class, but you will receive all the necessary training to participate in 'Neighbor Saving Neighbor Programs' and to help any SCA victim. This is a **free class** taught by ASHI certified CPR instructors for all Village residents. All instructors are volunteer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members. Donations are appreciated. To sign-up, click [HERE](#) or call the Church office!

Salvation Breakfast Team

HT has a fun-loving and hard-working team of volunteers that provides breakfast service at the Leesburg Salvation Army post to a growing number of less fortunate people in need. You can be part of this mission by joining our breakfast team for just 2 hours on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. For more info about serving our brothers and sisters in Christ, please contact *Jim Kelly (913) 558-2636* or email jimkelly8143@gmail.com



Little Red Wagon Salvation Army

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. We also need volunteers to help deliver this food. **If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office.**



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Our School is beginning an exciting new class for all students this school year. This fall, every student will attend a daily 20-minute class called RISE (Respect, Inspire, Serve, Empower). In this class, students will work on social/emotional, and organizational and executive functioning skills. They will also spend time reading, exploring careers, working on service projects and developing habits of character like respect, integrity, perseverance, etc. The main goal of this daily class is to ensure that every student has an adult and small group of peers that they are connected to and can come to for support. One way we will help our students track their progress in this class is to have them journal on a regular basis. We are hoping you might prayerfully consider helping us provide journals for all our students. **You can help by donating money to our school supply fund or by donating composition notebooks for us to use as journals.** Thank you for all your support. At HTES we all RISE together! God bless you! -Becca Coulter





Buildings & Grounds Meeting | July 8 @ 5pm

There will be a Buildings & Grounds Meeting on **Tuesday, July 8th at 5:00pm** in Grace Chapel. Join us if you would like to be part of the wonderful team that maintains our beautiful campus. Come learn about what our team is doing, and how you can help. All are welcome!

Reading Chicks Book Club | July 10 @ 3pm

All ladies are invited to the launch of a women's book club at Holy Trinity, *Reading Chicks!* The first meeting will be on **Thurs, July 10th** at Deb & Sid Yee's, 1002 Pickering Path, The Villages. For more info go to page 5-6. **RSVP to Deb by July 5th.**

CPR/AED Training | Aug. 12

We will be hosting a CPR/AED course on **Tuesday, August 12 from 1:30pm-4:00pm** in the Parish Hall. During this class you will learn how to safely recognize a Sudden-Cardiac-Arrest (SCA) victim and what to do next. Experience hands on practice with manikins and AED trainers. Learn the Heimlich maneuver for infants, children and adults. Certification is not provided with this class, but you will receive all the training and practice you need to participate in 'Neighbor Saving Neighbor' Programs' and to help any SCA victim. This is a **free class** taught by ASHI certified CPR instructors for all Village residents. To sign-up, click [HERE](#) or contact Gisselle at the Church office and she will sign you up!

Light the Path Golf Benefit | Oct. 20 @8:30am

Our Golf Benefit is scheduled for **Monday, October 20th** with an **8:30 am** shotgun start. Golf, lunch fee is \$110 per golfer or \$440 per foursome. After October 1st the fee will be \$125 per golfer. Lunch will be served at Paulie's Oaks restaurant at 1pm and will include chicken parmigiana, Caesar salad, pasta, rolls & butter, soft drinks & cookies. Alcohol is available at the bar. Non-golfers are welcome to join us for lunch at \$30/person. Proceeds will provide financial aid for our students and funding for our specialized instruction and services. See pg.7 for more info.

Invite Welcome Connect Training | Nov. 15 9:00AM – 3:00PM

Join us on Saturday, **November 15, 2025**, as we welcome Cynthia Brust, the Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Melbourne, Florida, to share valuable insights and expertise on how to live more fully into our vision a more warm and welcoming Christ-centered community for all to belong, blossom, and bless. More info to come!

Vestry Meeting Highlights
June 19, 2025

The Vestry met for their monthly meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2025, to discuss matters of importance to the life and mission of our church.

1. The meeting began with prayer.

2. The Vestry reviewed and approved the minutes from the May meeting.

3. The Vestry heard presentations from two parishioners:

a. Jerry Hurst spoke first about the annual School Golf Benefit. He shared updates on the planning, indicating that they need volunteers to help with certain aspects of the event. There will be a meeting in July for additional planning. The date of the Gold Benefit is October 20th. Vestry members pledged their support including individual donations.

b. Sharon Redding talked about the sound system and made some recommendations. A proposal to purchase a new sound board and some microphones for the choir is being considered.

4. The Vestry was informed of the following upcoming events:

a. September 20th, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM-Mutual Ministry Review

b. October 20th, 7:00 AM “Light the Path School Golf Benefit” at Continental Country Club in Wildwood

c. November 15th, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Invite Welcome Connect (ICW) Training with the Rev. Cynthia Burst

c. April 20, 2026 “Light the Path Banquet” 5:30 PM- 8:00 PM

5. The Vestry reflected on reports from some of the ministry teams:

a. Steve shared his plan for receiving information about projects and repairs in and around the church. Please read the weekly E-News to find out more.

b. Jim gave an update of the Vestry Action Plan.

6. Fr. Samuel reported that the “Light the Path Banquet and Benefit” was a big success. 230 people attended the event and \$30,000.00 raised for the school. He also reported that he will be on vacation from July 14-31. The Revs. Jamie and Janice will celebrate and preach during his absence.

7. The Vestry reviewed and approved the Treasurer’s Report.

8. The meeting ended with prayer.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and School

2201 Spring Lake Road, Fruitland Park FL 34731

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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:

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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:

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Steve Knowles – Jr. Warden

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Debbie Lally – Secretary

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Mark Welton

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Ministry Leaders Contact Info:

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

Worship Assistants

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Twofus9600@aol.com

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dcasson@embarqmail.com

Adult Sunday School

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rwhetsell04@yahoo.com

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Choir- Sharon Redding

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sredding10@comcast.net

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Men's Group

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Holy Hackers

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aldrichkp@gmail.com