

The Tidings



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Fruitland Park, FL 34731

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

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Happy October Anniversary To:



3 - Jerry & Judy Huetz
7 - Gregg & Judy Monin
13 - David & Naomi Aldrich
15 - Bob & Annette Freeman
16 - Les & Lisa Hall
20 - Bruce & Sara May
26 - Cherrie & Ron Whetsell
28 - Sid & Deb Yee



Happy October Birthday To:



3 - Terry Colla	13 - David Aldrich
3 - Sara May	14 - Emily Ware
4 - Steve Knowles	19 - Barbara Kelley
5 - Elizabeth Knowles	20 - Ron Whetsell
6 - Tom Hulsey	26 - Peter Coughlin
7 - Barbara Turner	28 - Deborah Holliday
9 - Mike Browne	28 - Ann Oakes
11 - Angela Perrin	29 - Jerry Huetz

Rector's Message

Striving to be a Vital Church

By Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

In my reflection last month, I invited all of you to participate in our **Back to Church** season here at Holy Trinity. I stated that our Back to Church season would involve activities aimed at encouraging, equipping, and providing opportunities for us to be more intentional about inviting, welcoming, and connecting others to God and one another. I also encouraged everyone to fill out a Parish Vitality Survey to give us more information on where we are as a congregation.



As I write this month's reflection, I am delighted to report that the survey was completed, analyzed, and the results presented to the congregation at an open forum on Sunday September 28. The results from the survey present a picture of a relatively stable congregation with several areas that need increased attention. The survey results

clearly show areas of strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Before the results were presented to the congregation, they were carefully reviewed and analyzed by the Vestry as part of our Mutual Ministry Review held at a day long retreat on Saturday September 20. Among the resources we used to analyze the survey results was an article by the Rev. Bob Honeychurch, that defines a vital congregation is a community of faith which:

- Invites people to become passionate followers of Jesus Christ
- Creates opportunities for personal and corporate transformation
- Equips and empowers people for gospel mission in the world

We also used a document from an organization called Natural Church development that presents **8 Characteristics (Qualities) of Healthy Growing Churches as** Empowering Leadership, Gift-Based Ministry, Passionate Spirituality, Effective (Functional) Structures, Inspiring Worship, Holistic Small Groups, Need-Oriented Evangelism, & Loving Relationships.

While we are encouraged by how our survey results align with the standards outlined in the above documents, we acknowledge that we still have more work to sustain and grow in vitality. It is in this regard that we are continuing to work tirelessly to encourage, equip, and provide opportunities for every one of you to participate in this effort. I wish to specifically encourage you to prayerfully consider how you may participate in the upcoming events including the Blessing of Animals on October 4, the Ministry Fair of October 12, the Golf Benefit on October 20, and the InviteWelcomeConnect training on November 15. This is also an opportunity to invite your unchurched friends to "Come and See."

In essence the Back to Church season at Holy Trinity has begun and promises to be both exciting and challenging as we strive to become a truly vital church. We are confident that God who began a good work among us, will carry it on to completion on the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6).

"To Him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

(Ephesians 3:20-21).

For Pastoral Care we welcome you to contact:

Robin Mitchell

(352)350-1451 | RobinMitchell@yahoo.com

Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

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

**OR call the church office Mon.-Thurs.
during office hours.**

Senior Warden's Report

The work on the parish rectory continues. Unfortunately, the scope of the repairs necessary to return the rectory to a habitable



condition goes beyond just the water damaged. Simply stated, the rectory is showing its age. Fr. Samuel and our JR. Warden, Steve Knowles, have been working very closely with con-

tractors and our church insurance company in this effort. Unfortunately, Fr. Samuel and his family have not been able to return home to the rectory yet and are still living in Airbnb accommodations.

In the meantime, our plans are still on track for the presentation of the Episcopal Churches' newly envisioned Invite Welcome, Connect program. Join us on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025, as we welcome Cynthia Brust, the Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Melbourne, FL, to share valuable insights and expertise. I highly encourage you to secure your spot for this pivotal presentation. Contact Gisselle in the church office at (352) 787-1500 to reserve your spot.

Our Director of Music, Sharon Redding, has been collaborating with a donor who has generously funded the purchase and installation of a new sound system for our church. We have started the installation phase of our new sound system. By the time you read this, the installation should be completed. Be ready to experience the upgrade to our system in the near future.

Last month, I mentioned the purchase of a white mini bus by the school in support of the newly introduced transition program. (This program aims to assist high school graduates in navigating the job market and transitioning into adulthood.) This new program, in fact, is now up and operating; unfortunately, the white mini bus is not; the engine failed and is in the process of being replaced.

I also want to mention the September 20, 2025 Vestry retreat and let you know that your Vestry did an outstanding job reviewing the Parish Vitality survey results, considering how well our clergy and lay leadership (including the Vestry) is fulfilling their responsibilities to each other and the broader parish. Based on our review, we were able to recognize opportunities for improved collaboration and clearer future direction. Where critical comments were found, and there were a few, we worked hard to identify solutions, focusing on fixing the problem, not the blame. Where we found encouraging comments, we saw these as an opportunity to build on a solid foundation, not resting on our laurels. We asked ourselves what's the next step, how can we build on the resources and talents of our church?

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, *Senior Warden*

New Vestry Member Commissioned

Due to changes in her life circumstances, one of our esteemed Vestry members, Pat Casson Fleming, regrettably had to resign from the Vestry. In accordance with our Episcopal Church bylaws, Fr. Samuel, with the consent of the remaining Vestry members, appointed Karen Hammen to complete the remainder of Pat's vacated 2025 term. On Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, Karen was formally commissioned as a Vestry member. Karen has been a member of Holy Trinity since 2021. She is active as a Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM), Lector, and serves on the IWC and Pastoral Care ministry teams. She recently completed her assignment as the chair of the Parish Discernment Committee (PDC) for Rob Soeldner, our aspirant for the diaconate. -Jim Kelly, *Sr. Warden*

Serve, Grow and Connect: Lay Ministry at Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity needs lay ministry volunteers across all ministries if we are to accomplish our mission: to invite, welcome and connect all people to God and one another in Christ. It is through service that we grow deeper in faith, discover new strengths, and build lasting friendships. Holy Trinity is not just a place to attend, but a church to which we belong, blossom and bless. A church is most alive, vibrant and growing when everyone is active and engaged.

The Bible reminds us that all followers of Christ are called to serve. Ministry is not reserved for a select few; it is the responsibility of all. When we use our God-given gifts and talents, we not only help others but also reflect the heart of Christ and witness God to working through us in ways we never expected.

Pray about where God may be leading you to serve. Talk with ministry leaders or clergy about opportunities that may best fit your interests, gifts/talents and schedule. Don't wait for a perfect time to get involved, sometimes the best way is to just take that first step. Join one of our ministry teams. Ministries at Holy Trinity are organized into eight major categories, all of which are inter-connected and interdependent:

1)Worship 2) Discipleship
3) Communications 4) Pastoral Care
5) Membership 6) Stewardship 7) Outreach
and 8) Holy Trinity Episcopal School.

For the latest information about our ministries, please pick up the newest Ministry Booklet, published in October 2025, available in the Parish Hall. Included in this Booklet is the contact information for the team leaders of each ministry.

Representatives from each ministry team will be available at the Holy Trinity **Ministry/Stewardship Fair on Sunday, October 12th after each service.** They will have tables with information about their ministries and will be ready to answer any questions that you may have. You are always welcome to attend scheduled meetings of any of these ministries to see firsthand what they are about.

Judy Gygi, *Invite Welcome Connect (IWC) Team Leader*

Parishioner Spotlight

The Parishioner Spotlight is on **Karen Shirley** this month.



Karen was confirmed at Holy Trinity nine years ago and attends the 10:30 service.

You'll recognize Karen not

only from church but also from her many volunteer duties around the campus. She's an assistant with the maintenance team to help with lawn mowing. And starting this school term, Karen is volunteering at HTES several afternoons a week in the administration office. She very much enjoys getting to know the school staff and interacting with the students.

Karen is a year-round resident in The Villages in the Village of Ashland. She was born in Tifton, GA, and raised in Jacksonville where she lived for 56 years. She has two children, Aimee who has 4 children, and Brian who has 2 children and lives in Lady Lake.

Karen's energy shows in her career. She's a licensed Medical Laboratory Technologist and retired as a client services manager for Pathology from the University of Florida. She continued working as a preneed counselor for Baldwin Bros Cremations and retired after 8 years. Karen continues to work with Love Home Harmony in Spanish Springs.

A passion of Karen's is The Camino de Santiago, or the Way of St. James, a network of pilgrims' ways or pilgrimages leading to the shrine of the apostle James in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in northwestern Spain. She has walked three Caminos and volunteered as a hospitalero, one who is dedicated to welcoming other pilgrims, in the hostels along the way. Karen has recently started a new club for anyone interested in and/or camaraderie with veteran "pilgrims." Anyone interested should contact Karen about the inaugural meeting on November 3rd.

Thank you, Karen, for all you do at Holy Trinity! -Joan Hensley

Holy Hackers



"Holy Hackers returned to Pennbrooke Fairways at 9:30 Saturday morning, September 13 after our Summer hiatus. Some of our snowbirds are not back yet and a fair number of regular Hackers could not make this one for various reasons but thirteen of us showed up, played nine holes of golf and all adjourned to The Grille afterwards for lunch. We welcomed back Pam & Tom Hulsey after several years

away, Barbara Turner's regular foursome is reduced to her and Valeria, as Molly and Gloria sold their home and moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana. We will miss them. Mandy, as always, provided the group photo(s), don't know what I would do without her. If you don't recognize anyone in the photo, just ask me. The weather really cooperated again, and all of us finished under par, so a very good day on that front. We are at it again on Saturday, October 11th, 9:30 tee off, join us then for golf or just lunch & fellowship afterwards at about 11:00, guests and friends are always welcome. If you wish to join us the signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall or call/text or e mail Dave Aldrich at **203-258-9643** or aldrichkp68@gmail.com

Near the Sea of Galilee *by Ron Whetsell*

"So little, it's impossible;
five thousand need to eat,"
But in His love and mercy,
His bounty came complete.

Five loaves of stale bread cracked,
Rain fell in random crumbs,
As Jesus prayed for man,
In new life soon begun.

Two fish, skin crinkled dry,
From sands of moisture lost,
In punnets passed ne'er emptied,
His gratitude the cost.

The fruit of love's abundance,
The key to heaven's door,
A wealth of richness granted,
Like fish and bread before.

InviteWelcomeConnect Training

Please save the date of **Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:00am – 3:00pm** to participate in a workshop in the Parish Hall at Holy Trinity. The workshop will be hosted by our IWC Ministry Team. The focus of the workshop will be on developing skills to comfortably invite guests to church, appropriately welcoming our guests to make them feel welcome and inspired to return, and helping those who are interested in transitioning from guests to participating members.

The training will be conducted by the Rev. Cynthia Brust, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Melbourne, FL., since 2020. Under her leadership, Christ Church has been transformed from a struggling and declining congregation to a vibrant and thriving one, using the principles of InviteWelcomeConnect. Christ Church has experienced numerical growth, increase in commitment to ministry service and enhanced giving. She has seen first-hand the potential of the IWC framework to transform congregations from maintenance mode into dynamic mission.

Beyond Christ Church, the Rev. Brust is also active at the diocesan level. She previously served on the Diocesan Board and currently serves on the Commission on Ministry. She is also a faculty member of the diocesan Institute for Christian Studies.

I have had the opportunity to attend Christ Church and to hear Rev. Brust present at several Diocesan education programs. Her presentations consistently inspire me to consider how some of the creative ideas she shares can be adapted at Holy Trinity.

Judy Gygi, IWC Ministry Team Leader



MINISTRY/ STEWARDSHIP FAIR

Sunday, October 12th, 2025

Parish Hall | 9am - 1pm

Food, refreshments, games, and giveaways!

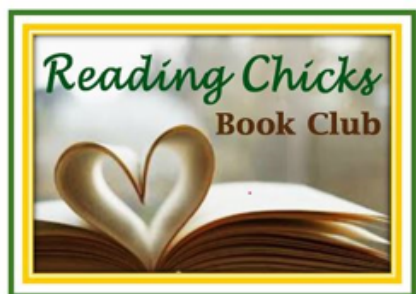
The Fair offers opportunities to join various ministry teams including worship, music, outreach, education, and more. Join us to learn how you can carry forward God's work at Holy Trinity!



Oct. 26th – Jewelry Sale

Parish Hall during Fellowships
Lots of new items!

Fund Raiser for Holy Trinity School

Women's Book Club OCTOBER Meeting! Wed. Oct. 22nd, 3-5pm

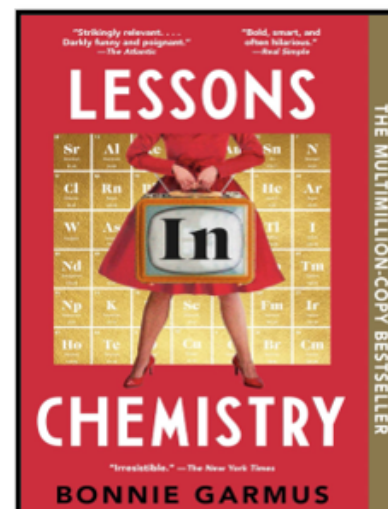
Book: [Lessons in Chemistry](#) by **Bonnie Garmus**

Where: Mary Jo Neidow's, 148 Evergreen Lane, Lady Lake

RSVP: Deb 703-472-1573 debkhogan@gmail.com

"Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist," says *Good Reads*. Available in paperback, Kindle, audiobook. Audible, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, libraries.

This book of historical fiction was inspired by the real struggles of women, particularly in STEM fields, during the 1950s and 60s. Its many themes include: the struggle against gender roles and sexism, the importance of education, the power of resilience in overcoming trauma and grief, the complex nature of family relationships, and the intersection of science and everyday life, especially in the kitchen.



Come to connect, build new friendships, and strengthen existing ones!



GOLF BENEFIT REGISTRATION IS FULL

Thank you to all our generous sponsors and enthusiastic golfers for making our 2025 Golf Benefit such a success! Due to overwhelming response, **player registration is now full.** *If you would like to be added to the waiting list, please notify Gisselle at the church office, and we will notify you by Friday, October 17, if a spot becomes available.* Opportunities remain to support the event as a sponsor or donor—please visit HolyTrinitySchoolGolf.com for details.

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

Holy Trinity
Episcopal School

**LIGHT
THE PATH
GOLF BENEFIT**

Proceeds will provide financial aid to
students with learning differences

OCTOBER 20, 2025

7AM Registration, 8AM Shotgun Start

Sponsor/Donor opportunities
still available!

OUTREACH MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to coordinate this year's Wreaths Across America initiative. If you would like to help, please contact Gisselle at the church office.

Blessing of Animals



Our Annual Blessing of the Animals has been scheduled for **Saturday, October 4th at 10am** in the courtyard. Please bring your pets for a blessing! We only ask that they be on a leash or in carriers & have up-to-date vaccinations. Invite your friends and family!

GOLF BENEFIT 50/50 CHANCES

Judy Huetz will be selling 50/50 chances for the 2025 Golf Benefit after both services. You don't have to be present to win; just put your name and phone # on the back of the ticket. **Ticket prices: 2 for \$5.00 and 10 for \$10.00.** We also plan on selling Tickets for Baskets (Liquor, Wine, and Lottery Board & Forever stamps). Basket Ticket prices: 1 for \$5.00 and 8 for \$20.00

Thoughts for the Soul

"Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe."—Saint Augustine

"God never said the journey would be easy, but He did say the arrival would be worthwhile." – Max Lucado

HTEC School Tutor Program

If you or someone you know wants to make a real difference in a child's life, please call (913) 558-2636 or email jim-kelly8143@gmail.com. No formal academic certification is required. Tutor training and instructional materials are provided. Snow-birds are welcome.

Jim Kelly, *HTES Tutor Program Coordinator*



School News

October

HTES has had a busy fall so far packed with a lot of learning and sprinkled with fun events. Students have been working hard learning

about the scientific process, polynomials, ancient history, essay writing, and much more. In RISE classes they have been exploring career options, learning to set goals, and forming a better understanding of what it means to be knowledgeable as learners. We also completed fall assessments in reading and math.

We had our first Parliament event, and almost all of our students earned the privilege of skating at Skate World. They had a blast hanging out with friends and learning to skate. We also started our Clubs activities. One Friday a month students attend two clubs of their choosing such as gardening, card games, crafts, innovative technology, and cooking. The gardening club did some weeding on campus and in the church courtyard area. If you have any gardening projects you would like help with, please let us know!

We recently remade our family group into a Parent Teacher Group with new bylaws and a new leadership structure. This group is already planning many ways to take part in community events, support the school, and provide fun activities for our students. Huey Magoo's is sponsoring a fundraiser for us on November 6th and will donate 20% of their profits to HTES. Fresh Jalapeno's is also sponsoring a fundraiser and will donate 10%

of their profits to HTES on November 10th if you bring in a school flyer. Eating some yummy food out is an easy way to support our school!

We can't thank the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church parishioners enough for all of your generosity in providing the supplies on teachers' wish list apples in Parish Hall. It felt like Christmas receiving all of your kind donations. We are also deeply indebted to Jerry Huetz for leading the efforts for our Golf Benefit on October 20th. Our tournament is already full! We are so blessed to be a part of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church community!

HTES Extended Transition Program



Our Extended Transition students have been busy taking courses and preparing for future jobs. They recently attended a local Lion's Club meeting to explain the Extended Transition Program and thank them for a kind donation to help students with tuition. They did a wonderful job presenting to the Lion's Club! They have also begun attending chapel services at St. James Episcopal School where the program is currently housed.

Becca Coulter, *Head of School*

BIBLE STUDY HAS RESUMED: Our **Wednesday Bible Study** has resumed and meets at **10:00am** in the Chapel. We are currently studying the Sunday readings. One of the many treasures of the Episcopal Church is that each Sunday we experience the Liturgy of the Word. These words, inspired by the Holy Spirit, offer us wisdom, inspiration and motivation to be better disciples of the Lord. During our Wednesday gathering we will read and consider what the upcoming Sunday's Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament, and Gospel passages offer us in our life's journey. Hopefully these discussions will enrich our worship time. You need no prior knowledge for these classes, just a Bible, an open mind, an enquiring heart, and a good sense of humor. Any questions? Please call or text **Rob Soeldner** at **978.895.6937**.

A Dinner Welcoming New Members!

The newest members of our parish were warmly welcomed into the fold at a dinner in their honor on Friday, September 12th in the Parish Hall. A robust group of ~20 gathered including 5 new members and various parishioners including folks from the vestry, IWC and various other ministries.

Our several hours of fellowship started with conversation over a delicious buffet dinner catered by Fresh Jalapeno. There was something to suit everyone's taste including shredded chicken, ground beef, soft- and hard-shell tortillas, lettuce and tomato, sour cream, beans, guacamole, a large tossed salad, and various desserts. This was followed by a truly engaging get-to-know-you sharing by everyone present about themselves and their journey to Holy Trinity. Fr

Samuel closed with a brief PowerPoint presentation about our church.

We all left with the warm feeling that comes from welcoming wonderful new members with diverse gifts and backgrounds into our church family. Thanks to all who teamed together to make this a fun and memorable evening!

Deb Yee

New Member Welcoming Ceremony September 14



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 “Shepard” for the program, or any members of our Endowment Committee: Mike Browne, Parker Bauer, and Paul Harmon.

Salvation Breakfast Team



Besides Holy Trinity's contributions to the Salvation Army Food Bank via the Red Wagon, we also have 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 jimkelly8143@gmail.com

Little Red Wagon Salvation Army Food Bank

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. Specifically, the Salvation Army is asking for: Peanut Butter, Jelly (No glass jars), Canned fruit and fruit cups, Spaghetti sauce, Thin spaghetti pasta, Canned Soup, Mac & Cheese, Canned Beefaroni, ravioli, spaghetti, Canned meat; Tuna, chicken, Vienna sausage, Box meals; Ham helper, Tuna helper, etc., 16oz bags rice, Mashed potatoes, Ramen noodles, Single serve grits & oatmeal, Snacks for kids



Upcoming Events:

Adult Sunday School | Every Sunday @ 9:15am

Join us every Sunday at 9:15am in the Chapel. All are welcome! Please Note: There will be no Sunday School on Oct. 12 due to time conflicts with the Ministry Fair.

Bible Study | Every Wednesday @ 10am

Bible Study has resumed every Wednesday at 10:00am in Grace Chapel. All are welcome!

Blessing of the Animals | Oct. 4 @ 10am

We will be having our annual Blessings of the Animals in the church courtyard on **Saturday, October 4th at 10am**. All pets welcome! Invite your friends and family!

Holy Hackers | Oct. 11 @ 9:30am

The next outing is on **Saturday, October 11, 9:30 am** at Pennbrooke Fairways. Please join us for golf and/or lunch. Guests and friends are welcome! Sign up in Parish Hall or contact Dave Aldrich at aldrichkp68@gmail.com | 203-258-9643. We hope to see you there!

Ministry Fair | Oct. 12 from 9:00am – 1:00pm

Holy Trinity encourages spiritual growth through service by inviting members to participate in its Ministry Fair and Stewardship Campaign starting **October 12th 9:00AM-1:00PM** in the Parish Hall. The Fair offers opportunities to join various ministry teams including worship, music, outreach, education, and more. Serving on a ministry team is a great way to deepen faith, to develop or strengthen existing friendships and to build community connections.

Light the Path Golf Benefit | Oct. 20 @ 7am

Our Annual Golf Benefit is scheduled for October 20th, 7am registration, 8am Shotgun Start, at the Continental Country Club in Wildwood. Although registration is full, opportunities are still available to sponsor or donate!

Reading Chicks Book Club | Oct. 22 @ 3pm

OCTOBER MEETING from 3-5pm at the home of Mary Jo Neidow. Details are found on page 8. The book club is open to all women of Holy Trinity! Please email Deb Yee at debkhogan@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Jewelry Sale | Oct. 26 after both services

Ms. Hull will be selling her handmade jewelry during both fellowships on **Sunday, Oct. 26**. Stop to purchase a beautiful piece of jewelry. Lots of new items! Proceeds will go to the school!

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 ex-pertise. See pg 6

Vestry Meeting/Retreat Highlights-September 20, 2025

The Vestry met for their Annual Retreat and monthly meeting on Saturday, September 20, 2025, to discuss matters of importance to the life and mission of our church.

The meeting began with Morning Prayer led by Fr. Samuel.

1. Rectory update:

- * All mold issues, at the Rectory, have been resolved and signed off on.
- * The rebuilding process has begun, but is estimated to take longer than planned.
- * Insurance is covering housing for Fr. Samuel and his family.

2. The Vestry reviewed and approved proposed changes to the School Board Policies and Procedures.

Fr. Samuel began the Retreat with a handout of the Mutual Ministry Review. The purpose and Key Aspects of the Process were discussed giving the Vestry a clear understanding of reason for the Vitality Survey and how to approach the results of the survey. From the survey we are looking for the strengths and weaknesses of our church as viewed by our parishioners. It is not intended for blame, but rather to understand and address the views, good or bad.

Fr. Samuel provided an article on Vital Congregations. According to the Rev. Bob Honeychurch, a vital congregation is a community of faith which:

- Invites people to become passionate followers of Jesus Christ
- Creates opportunities for personal and corporate transformation
- Equips and empowers people for gospel mission in the world

With the guidance of Fr. Samuel, we then discussed the 8 Essential Qualities of Healthy Growing Churches. They include Empowering Leadership, Gift-Based Ministry, Passionate Spirituality, Effective (Functional) Structures, Inspiring Worship, Holistic Small Groups, Need-Oriented Evangelism and Loving Relationships. As we looked at each of the characteristics, we felt that we are heading in the right direction as those qualities can be found right here at Holy Trinity.

The 2025 Parish Vitality Survey Results were reviewed and discussed, at length. Overall, we were pleased with the results. For example, 90% of the parishioners were pleased with the quality of worship. We are aware of areas that our parishioners feel need attention and all concerns, fixable or not, will be addressed. We will look at Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats as we discern the next steps.

Our afternoon ended with a prayer from Fr. Samuel.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and School

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The Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes –

Assisting Priest

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The Rev. Dr. James Jones – Assisting Priest

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The Rev. Charlie Perrin – Deacon

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The Rev. Dick LaBud – Deacon

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Gisselle Martinez – Office Admin.

Kathy Wolfe - Bookkeeper

Sharon Redding – Music Director

Lori Clark – Housekeeping

Becca Coulter, Head of School

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Seth Trees, HTES Operations Coordinator

strees@htespiscopalschool.org

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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

Steve Knowles – Jr. Warden

steveli2@yahoo.com | 352-504-8921

Debbie Lally – Secretary

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Karen Hammen

karen_hammen@yahoo.com | 262-617-9641

Russ Casson - Treasurer

rhcasson@embarqmail.com | 352-255-2234

Judy Gygi

jgygi2876@gmail.com | 407-461-5647

Robin Michell

robinmichell@yahoo.com | 352-350-1451

Scott Pennington

Skypilot513@yahoo.com | 352-396-9984

Mark Welton

Markwelton72@gmail.com | 845-220-6206

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

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