



# The Tidings

*Holy Trinity Episcopal  
Church and School*

*2201 Spring Lake Rd.  
Fruitland Park, FL 34731  
Church Office: 352-787-1500  
School Office: 352-787-8855*



**Rector: The Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva**

**Volume 6 Issue 8**

**August 2024**



## Table of Contents

Rector’s Message.....	1
Senior Warden’s Report.....	3
Vestry Highlights.....	3
Treasurer’s Report .....	3
HTEC School Update .....	3
HTEC School Tutor Program .....	4
Parishioner Focus .....	4
Salvation Army Food Bank Collection.....	5
Salvation Army Breakfast Team.....	5
Holy Hackers .....	5
Anniversaries/Birthdays.....	6
In Loving Memory.....	6
Pastoral Care .....	6
Help Wanted.....	7
Matching Grant .....	7
Raffle Baskets .....	7
Upcoming Events/Activities .....	7
Contact’s Page .....	8

## Rector’s Message

### *Gratitude and Generosity*

*By Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva*

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).*



The greatest reason we take a break from some of the crucial ministries during the summer, is to allow clergy and ministry teams to reflect on the overall life and mission of our church. My own reflection always

begins with our vision to be a warm, welcoming, and Christ-centered community for all to belong, blossom, and bless. Inevitably, my reflection leads me to a greater sense of gratitude for the generosity of so many of our members and friends. Consequently, I have come to believe that gratitude and generosity are the two ingredients that will sustain and lead us to a greater realization of our vision.

## **Gratitude**

The scriptures from both the old and new testaments continually remind us of the need to be grateful to God for His goodness to us. Over and over, the Psalmist urges us to give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever (Psalm 100:4-5, 107:1, 118:1). St. Paul in almost all his letters also urges us to give thanks always; not only when things are going well but even when things are not going well – in all circumstances. In his letter to the Philippians, he urges us not to be “anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6). This is particularly important because Gratitude has been associated with resilience. In other words, grateful people are more able to cope with life challenges.

Gratitude has also been associated with overall happiness. We know that, in general, people are attracted to happy people. In other words, the more grateful we are, the happier we will become; and the more attractive we will be to those who are looking for a spiritual home to belong.

As Christians, we are not only called to express our gratitude to God, but to one another, and all those who touch our lives in one way or the other. We ought to give thanks for the gift of each other and for each other’s acts of love. I am grateful for all of you - for your prayers, your participation, and your patience. I am grateful for your generosity of spirit, time, talent, and treasure. I am grateful for what you have done and for what I hope you will do. I am grateful for our clergy, vestry, ministry teams, and our partners and friends. I am grateful to our school board, teachers, and staff for sustaining our school’s mission during such a volatile time. I am

grateful to Mrs. Angela Heffernan and Mr. Seth Trees for accepting our invitation to join our school as Head of School and Operations Coordinator, respectively. I am grateful to God for what He has done and what He will do.

## **Generosity**

Every culture I have had the privilege of living in has had a fundamental belief that the primary and most important way of expressing gratitude is by being generous not only to those who have been generous to us but to others as well. Generosity as an expression of gratitude does not simply reciprocate goodness but replicates it. It does not simply give back but passes on the love. It is also important to remember that generosity in its true sense is less about material things but more about the spirit – kindness, compassion, forgiveness, presence, etc.

## **Growing in Gratitude and Generosity**

My prayer and hope is that we will continue to grow as grateful and generous people. While this should happen organically, it will also require some intentionality. Some of the upcoming opportunities to grow in gratitude and generosity include the upcoming School Golf Benefit, the ongoing Church Entrance Walkway Project, the Ministry Fair, etc. It is my prayer that the more grateful we become, the more generously we will be able to share the loving, liberating, and life-giving message of God’s love in Christ to all who seek a place to belong, blossom, and bless. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

## Sr. Warden's Report

We are in a very “lazy summer” period at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. The School, on the other hand, has been a hive of activity. The school has been spruced up awaiting the arrival of our students and teachers for the 2024-25 School Year. We are looking forward to starting our New Year with new leadership. We have a new crop of sixth graders joining us. I hope we can ensure them a happy and successful school experience. We are looking forward to guiding our returning students through a new curriculum, especially in reading.

As you may know we have an anonymous donor who will match donations up to \$5,000 to have our walkway replaced. Please consider donating, any amount, to help us make our walkway a safe place for our Family Members to navigate.

September we will slowly ease back into action. Meetings will once again occur on designated dates. Pancake Breakfasts will be served, I hope. Our Grounds people will be busy raking and keeping our grounds pristine. October we will be “full speed ahead”. We will have the Blessing of the Animals and the Golf Benefit on Saturday October 5th . The Blessing will occur at 9am, and the Benefit will start at 1pm. The Stewardship and Ministry Fair will occur October 20th, tentatively. Before you know it – the holidays will be sneaking up on us.

So, I suggest we all enjoy the rest of our summer, because we will certainly need all the energy we can muster once Autumn arrives. *By Doris Brennan, Sr. Warden*

## Treasurer's Summary Report

	June 2024	
	Actual	Budget
Contributions		
Pledges	\$16,864	\$25,167
Other Income	<u>\$ 1,970</u>	<u>\$ 3,558</u>
Total	\$18,834	\$28,725
Expenses	\$35,962	\$28,725

*“To do good, and to distribute, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.” Heb. 13:16.*  
*Russ Casson, Treasurer*

## School Update

*HTES is an active place this summer*



Many think of summer as a “quiet time” here at school, and although the pace of summer may be a bit different, Holy Trinity Episcopal School is still an active place.

Many teachers are involved in planning and curriculum development to support the academic and character growth of our students. We are carefully reviewing assessment data to inform the selection and implementation of specialized reading and math interventions. Office staff is busy preparing “back to school” packets for our returning students and coordinating enrollment activities for our new families and students.

We have welcomed a new addition to our leadership team. Seth Trees will be supporting our school in many ways, including technology and facilities coordination, as well as working directly with our students and teachers to advance our commitment to providing an educational experience based in Christianity.

We are excited to offer a wide range of courses to our Middle School and High School students. Teachers are planning engaging and rigorous learning activities for core instructional courses, as well as exciting elective courses which provide opportunities for career exploration and the development of new interests and abilities. In addition to our longstanding favorites such as Art, Physical Education, and Woodworking, we are offering classes in Astronomy, Music Appreciation, Spanish, and Christian Worship.

As always, each and every one of the staff at Holy Trinity Episcopal School appreciates the warm and genuine support that our parish community extends to us in fulfillment of our school's mission.

*By Angela Heffernan, Head of School*

## **HTEC School Tutor Program**

### ***Make a difference in a child's life***

You too can become a part of our Mission effort by volunteering just one hour a week of your time as a Tutor. If you or someone you know wants to make a real difference in a child's life, please call (913)\_558-2636 or email [jimkelly8143@gmail.com](mailto:jimkelly8143@gmail.com). No formal academic certification is required. Tutor training and instructional materials are provided. Snowbirds are welcome.

*Jim Kelly, HTEC Tutor Program Coordinator*

## **Parishioner Focus:**

### **Janell Bromeisl and Charles Sterbis**



Our Parishioner Focus this month is on Janell Bromeisl and Charles Sterbis. While they both live in The Villages and maintain

their own homes, they partner together to share many social activities and have certainly added a lot to Holy Trinity as a team since they joined two years ago.

Janell was born and raised in Wisconsin and moved to Chippewa Falls, WI with her then husband, Robert, and stayed until 2018 when her husband passed. During that time, she was the caregiver for her husband for 15 years due to ALS and dementia. A short time later, Janell moved to The Villages.

Charles was born in Chicago and, as with Janell, lived in the north until his wife passed. He had visited The Villages before, loved it and moved there five years ago.

Charles has four children, two who live in California, and two who live in Illinois. He has two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Janell has three sons and four grandsons, all living in Wisconsin.

They share their love for pets, as Janell has Zoe, a Boston Terrier, while Charles has an extensive background in breeding both Siamese and Persian cats. While in England, his Siamese cats did very well at shows, and he was invited to join the Siamese Cat Breeders Board.

Interestingly, in his early education, Charles entered the Franciscan Monastery in Geneva, WI as a novice to become a friar. He chose to leave a year later before taking orders. Charles retired from the Air Force. He served first in the enlisted ranks, working as a voice intercept operator, listening, recording and translating voice communication from Yugoslavia, and served as a personnel officer. Following his Air Force career, he was a licensed clinical social worker with primary focus on marriage counseling and partner abuse counseling until retirement.

Similarly, Janell has always worked in a helping profession. She has been a Nursing Assistant, Nursing Home Social Worker, Program Director for 11 counties for the Alzheimer Association, Life Skills Counselor for individuals in the Criminal Justice system, and a Clinical Addiction Professional for St. Joseph's Hospital.

In her spare time, Janell enjoys reading, cooking, attending Theater Productions, and traveling. Charles has a long-time interest in British "N" gauge model railroading, and enjoys painting, Rummikub, Cribbage, and Dirty Uno.

In her neighborhood, Janell is a greeter for her street, and places flags in front of each home for every Federal holiday. Together, she and Charles are active in the De La Vista West Club, where Janell is Secretary.

At Holy Trinity, usually attending the 8:00am service, Janell serves as a Lector and coordinates the Meet and Greet Breakfast after the service. Charles serves as a Lector at Holy Trinity, and has been a Eucharist Minister, an usher, and has served on various church boards in other churches. He has been Lay Director on religious retreats and active in Koinonia and Marriage Encounter.

Janell believes God and the Pandemic helped she and Charles get together, as they met at a Meet and Greet sponsored by St. George on New Year's Day 2020. We're glad to have them here at Holy Trinity!

*By Joan Hensley*

## Salvation Army Food Bank Collection

### *The Little Red Wagon*

During the summer months school lunch programs are not available to the neediest of God's children so, now is the time to give.



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 breakfast cereal, peanut butter, bags/boxes rice, instant potatoes, canned vegetables and canned meat. For more information about helping our brothers and sisters in Christ, please contact *Annette Freeman (352) 406-7608*.

## HTEC 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 people in need. You can be part of this mission by joining our breakfast team for just 2 hours on the second and fifth Tuesdays of the month. For more information about helping our brothers and sisters in Christ, please contact *Jim Kelly (913) 558-2636*.



## Holy Hackers







The Holy Hackers will again be taking the Summer off, re-suming in September. Everyone is always welcome to

join us for golf and/or lunch and fellowship the second Saturday of the month. *By David Aldrich*

## August Anniversaries/Birthdays



-  Steve and Carol Mullen 8/01
-  Elizabeth and Stephen Knowles 8/02
-  George and Cheryl Pringle 8/11
-  Richard and Louise White 8/14



-  Cherrie Whetsell 8/01
-  Louise White 8/04
-  John Ferris 8/09
-  Vicki Gordon 8/11
-  Karen Hammen 8/12
-  Judy Goodner 8/16
-  Debbie Siver 8/17
-  James Foster 8/20
-  Sally Scavone 8/20
-  Margaret Rowell 8/23
-  Deborah Harmon 8/25
-  Liz Mustin 8/25
-  Dan White 8/26
-  Patricia Koller 8/29

## In Loving Memory



**Thomas J. Synan**

**02/25/1950 – 06/23/2024**

**Tom Synan**, a parishioner since 2022, departed this life on Sunday June 23, 2024 at the age of 74. His funeral was held on Saturday August 3, 2024 in our church cemetery.

### PASTORAL CARE

**For pastoral care  
we welcome you to contact:**

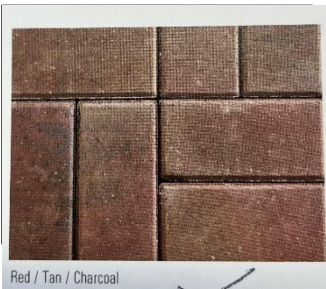
**Robin Mitchell**  
**(352-350-1451) or**  
**RobinMitchell@yahoo.com**

**Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva**  
**(920-226-0050) or [rector@holy-trinityfp.com](mailto:rector@holy-trinityfp.com);**

**or call the church office Monday  
through Thursday during office  
hours.**

**Please continue to phone or email  
your prayer requests to  
352-787-1500 or [office@holytrinityfp.com](mailto:office@holytrinityfp.com)**

## Matching Grant for Church for Church Walkway



An anonymous donor has offered to match every donation to the Walkway Project/ Building Fund up to **\$5,000**.

That means if you donate \$ 100 the donor will match it. **No gift is too big or too small.** The total cost of the project is estimated at \$12,500. For any questions, contact *Bob Freeman*, 352-753-0025

## Raffle Baskets for the School Golf Tournament



Thanks to everyone who has contributed thus far to making baskets for the School Benefit Golf Tournament on October 5, 2024. We have a lottery board, a stamp board (with \$100 worth of Forever Stamps), an Italian basket, coffee basket, and more to come. We are looking for donations to make other exciting baskets. If you can help, please let me know. Donations of items can be left in the office or given to me after the 10:30 service. Checks can be made out to Holy Trinity Episcopal **Church** with “Raffle Baskets” in the description line. *By Naomi Alrich – 203-258-6010*  
[aldrichn13@gmail.com](mailto:aldrichn13@gmail.com) –

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Holy Trinity Episcopal School Golf Benefit**



**OCTOBER 5, 2024**

**Where : Harbor Hills Country Club in Lady Lake**

**What time: Registration 12:00PM  
Shotgun Start 1:00PM**

Register now at: [HolyTrinitySchoolGolfBenefit](https://www.holytrinityschoolgolfbenefit.com)

***Please help us continue supporting our wonderful students and staff  
at HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL SCHOOL***

# Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and School

2201 Spring Lake Road  
Fruitland Park FL 34731  
Office Phone: 352-787-1500  
School Phone: 352-787-8855

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/holytrinityfruitlandpark](http://www.facebook.com/holytrinityfruitlandpark)

## Clergy

The Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva – Rector

[rector@holytrinityfp.com](mailto:rector@holytrinityfp.com)

Cell: 920-226-0050

The Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes –

Assisting Priest

[janice.gordonbarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:janice.gordonbarnes@yahoo.com)

The Rev. Dr. James Jones – Assisting Priest

[jamesjones1454@outlook.com](mailto:jamesjones1454@outlook.com)

The Rev. Charlie Perrin – Deacon

[charlie-perrin@outlook.com](mailto:charlie-perrin@outlook.com)

The Rev. Dick LaBud – Deacon

[rjlabud@gmail.com](mailto:rjlabud@gmail.com)

## Staff:

Gisselle Martinez – Office Administrator/ Communications Assistant

Kathy Wolfe - Bookkeeper

Sharon Redding – Music Director

Lori Clark - Housekeeping

Angela R. Hefferman – HTES Head of School

[ahefferman@htepiscopalschool.org](mailto:ahefferman@htepiscopalschool.org)

Seth Trees, HTES Operations Coordinator

[strees@htepiscopalschool.org](mailto:strees@htepiscopalschool.org)

## Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

## In-Person & Livestream Services:

Sunday 8:00am (Sanctuary)

Sunday 10:30am (Sanctuary)

Wednesday Healing 11:30am (Chapel)

## Contact Information:

Email: [office@holytrinityfp.com](mailto:office@holytrinityfp.com)

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

## Vestry:

Doris Brennan – Sr. Warden

[dabmag@hotmail.com](mailto:dabmag@hotmail.com)

352-751-5406

Bob Freeman – Jr. Warden

[Captbob147@gmail.com](mailto:Captbob147@gmail.com)

352-753-0025

Debbie Lally - Secretary

[michaellally@comcast.net](mailto:michaellally@comcast.net)

352-561-4961

Pat Fleming

[Trisha12552@aol.com](mailto:Trisha12552@aol.com)

Judy Gygi

[Jgygi2876@gmail.com](mailto:Jgygi2876@gmail.com)

407-461-5647

Jim Kelly

[jimkelly8142@gmail.com](mailto:jimkelly8142@gmail.com)

352-571-5531

Steve Knowles

[steveli2@yahoo.com](mailto:steveli2@yahoo.com)

352-504-8921

Robin Mitchell

[robinmitchell@yahoo.com](mailto:robinmitchell@yahoo.com)

352-350-1451

Mandy Panlilio

[Mandy0710@yahoo.com](mailto:Mandy0710@yahoo.com)

352-408-7106

## Newsletter Articles:

*Please submit by 25<sup>th</sup> of each month*

Gisselle Martinez, [office@holytrinityfp.com](mailto:office@holytrinityfp.com)