



The Tidings

*Holy Trinity
Episcopal
Church and School
2201 Spring Lake Rd.*



Volume 2, Issue 12

December 2020

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Sr. Warden's Message

December 2020, how can that be? Seems like the year that would not end and yet it seems to have flown by. The end of a very challenging and stressful year.... but also, the end of year full of hope and faith that 2021 will be a year of *Renewal, Revitalization, and Reunion.*

2020 is ending with positive momentum. We have accomplished much, in spite of pandemic, including our adoption of new technology which allows us to still worship together and stay, at least virtually, connected. We will continue to seek additional technology and improve on what we have, even after our community is virus free and we can all return to our beautiful and loving church. Continuing to utilize virtual technology will allow us to stay connected as we begin to travel, or are ill, or are in the north during the summer months. It also gives us additional opportunity to reach, invite, and connect with potential newcomers. A very special thank you to the committee that has worked so very hard to make our in-person worship services possible and safe. At the risk of missing someone, I want to thank Deb Yee, David Fleming, and Terry Banks (Communications and Technology), Dianne Casson (Altar Guild), Dave Aldrich (Ushers), Pat Casson (ROTA), Rev. Janice (Spiritual Guidance), and Sharon Redding



For Pastoral Care

Please Contact:

Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes
443-435-6812

Mike Browne – 352-259-4195
Pastoral Care Team Leader
Holy Trinity Office – 352-787-1500
office@holytrinityfp.com

Music Director – *thanks for the great guest musicians Sharon!!*).

Speaking of our beautiful church, we end 2020 with some very positive revitalization of buildings and grounds. A committee led by Barb Cogley has done a wonderful job of cleaning up, organizing, and adding improvements to our Parish Hall; all in preparation for 2021 and, we pray, our ability to reunite. Our Jr. Warden, Randy Siver, and the Building and Grounds Team have been very busy making improvements around our campus. The Rector's Office and the Rectory have been refurbished, hardscape landscaping has been added in the school parking lot, new signs have been donated and added for the school and providing direction to the school and church offices. In progress are

residing the school office building, painting of the church's exterior, and the rebuilding of our church windows (see Randy's report for details). A huge Thank You to Randy for his leadership and energy. He has assuring that 2021 will be one of Building and Grounds revitalization, all in preparation of our ability to reunite.

Our school under the leadership of our Head of School, Justin McCallister, has done a fantastic job of adopting technology and maintaining the ability to educate our students. Justin has also been able to acquire additional funding that has allowed the purchase of computers for students that had none, personal protection equipment for our students and staff, and very importantly, for providing professional assistance for students with mental health issues arising from distancing and effects of the pandemic.

I also want to recognize Sid Yee for his leadership once again of the Blackston Financial – Holy Trinity fundraising golf tournament. Sid and the many volunteers overcame the adversity of the pandemic and found ways to make this annual fundraiser for our school very successful. Many thanks to Sid, his team, and all the event-day volunteers! The funds you raise each year are imperative for the success of our school. Hopefully 2021 will allow the golf tournament to return to its normal format.

The most exciting sign of Renewal, Revitalization, and Reuniting comes with the news from our Vestry that the search process is nearing an end. The call has gone out for a new Rector and the final details are underway to finalize our connection with a new priest. The Vestry has worked extremely hard and has demonstrated enormous commitment to assuring our next Rector fulfills the needs and priorities that you all identified in the Parish Survey. An announcement will be made very soon with the details of who our new rector is and when they will be connecting with us as we reunite and renew our spiritual journey. I venture to say, I am extremely excited about 2021 being an extraordinary year for Holy Trinity, full of the three R's.

I wish each of you a blessed and Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Peace of the Lord to all, Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Dan Curtis, Sr, Warden

Vestry Minutes

November 16, 2020

Present: Dan Curtis, Randy Siver, David Aldrich, Deb Yee, Mark Weldon, Liz Mustin, Jim Kelly, Sara May, Russ Casson, Peggy Berry, Justin McCallister, Barbara Cogley.

The meeting opened with Prayer by Randy Siver at 6:30 PM.

Holy Trinity Episcopal School Justin McCallister

Human and Capital Resources:

*CARES (ESSER) PROGRAM—HTES has been approved for \$12,000 grant in federal money to help with a variety of costs associated with the COVID 19. Justin McCallister has selected to put \$7,000 in mental health services for students, \$2,000 in technology and computers and \$3,000 for PPE equipment.

*\$7,000 is to be used for mental health services provided by the state for students who are struggling with social distancing and other issues appearing because of the pandemic.

*\$2,000 is to be used to for computer purchases for students, we will be allowed to keep the computers for 2 years before they are returned to the Department of Education.

*The \$3,000 is for PPE equipment which will allow us to purchase protective shields for student and teacher desks.

MASK DONATIONS—HTES has received 2 mask donations that will be distributed to the students once they have returned to in class instruction. One donation from the Lake County Health Department and the second donation was from the Florida State Health Department.

Students and Families—We have had one student (a 6th grader) withdraw from at the end of October. We currently have 37 students enrolled.

In Class Instruction is set to reopen on the school campus to all students in January. This is

mandatory to maintain our good standing with the state scholarship programs.

- A comprehensive plan is being revised by Justin and will be sent out to all students, families and faculty members in December.
- Strict guidelines are to be followed when classes are in session for the safety of students, their families and faculty.

Finances: Scholarship distribution—October saw the distribution of Step-up scholarships. Gardiner has released their funding and they should be reported in November (pending parent approval).

School Support Team—Jim Kelly

The School Support Team Bylaws Committee has published a draft copy of the governance of HTES moving forward. The Bylaws committee is recommending that a School Board be formed and along with the Head of School, Rector and the Vestry operate for 12 months under the conditions of the “Pre-incorporated Bylaws”, revising as necessary during the pilot period before officially submitting to the Vestry and the Dioceses for formal approval.

Specifically, it is proposed that this 12-month pilot or trial period begin January 1, 2021, a mid-year review be conducted at the end of the school year and the final version of the Bylaws be presented to the Vestry and Dioceses by December 31, 2021 in time for presentation at the January 2022 HTEC annual meeting.

Although, there is not a proposal or motion at this time to accept the Bylaws, it is proposed to the Vestry that a motion to operate under the conditions of the Bylaws for 12 months, according to the proposed schedule be put to a Vestry vote. Jim made this motion and Randy seconded. Approved unanimously by Vestry Members.

The prescribed state of the Schools’ Board of Directors includes the Chair, Vice-Chair, Finance Director and Long-Range Planning Director and a Director at Large.

Drawing from the School Support Team, we currently have candidate volunteers for the Chair, Vice Chair, Long range Planning Director

and a Director at Large. Positions in the persons of Jim Kelly, Sara May, Terry Osborn and Floyd Cogley respectively. Consequently, we are looking to fill the Secretary, Finance Director and the remaining Director at Large positions. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents in support of our school and contact Jim Kelly at 913-558-2636 if you are interested and available for any of these school board director positions.

Tutors—Names and contact information for the approximately 27 Tutor Volunteers for initial screening, notification and training. Our tutor team is tentatively planning on a January start date.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers—Depending on the number of volunteers, we may not have the bell ringers this year. Currently, we have only 3 volunteers and historically we have operated with a minimum of 8 and that cuts it pretty thin. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents in support of this fun time. Contact Jim Kelly at 913-558-2636 if you are interested and available.

Church and School Financial Reports Russ Casson.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

In person church services are going well with a few glitches. The “Tidings” keeps us updated with times and services. A meeting of the reopening committee is scheduled and will address Christmas Services. The second service at 9 AM will begin on Sunday November 22, 2020.

Inventory is just about done and the AED and CPR training will be scheduled when OK to do in current pandemic situation.

Buildings and Grounds—Randy Siver

Window Replacement Project—Mastrosimone Construction Company has been contracted to handle this.

On Friday November 6, they removed the first window. The cost of this project has increased from \$3,000 to \$4,200.50. This is due to the fact that we discovered that the windows were so old

and rotten that refurbishing them would not be possible. The replacements will follow the Carpenter Gothic style that was used when the church was built. We discovered that the existing windows were sealed shut and therefore couldn't be opened. So, the new units will be one solid panel that will not open either. This will ensure that no weather, rain, heat or cold will permeate the openings. The bottom line here is that these windows will last a long time.

The gravel project mentioned last month is now complete. Parishioners will notice a beautiful raised area in front of our school as well as river rock gravel surrounding the church building. Not only does this beautify the grounds it mitigates tremendous weeding time.

The new church and school signage have been installed and greatly enhances the visual of our campus.

The east side of the school still needs siding replacement. This will be done as soon as possible.

The complete church inventory is almost done. I can't begin to thank the volunteers who helped on this project. I actually had too many offers to help. This is so indicative of our parish family, what a blessing you are to us all.

The complete 4 acres of the church property has been cleared of debris. Take a look and see how beautiful our grounds are.

The rectory is just about finished with cleaning and needed repairs.

Randy is in the process of taking bids for the church and parish hall roofs. He noted that in January a new state law will go into effect. This will change the method of doing roofs.

Finance Team—Mark Weldon

The key issue with the Finance Committee is the on-going stewardship campaign. The following is the latest on the campaign: 75 pledges for a total of \$180,544 and additionally \$6,425 for building fund and \$240 for the school. Results from the golf tournament are not yet in.

It was reported that Blackston Financial are willing to sponsor the golf tournament is 2021.

Communications—Deb Yee

The Sunday ads are on hold for November due to budgetary limitations and will resume in December. Not advertising for the Christmas Eve service in the special advertising supplement section of The Daily Sun for the same reason.

Deb Yee did the newsletter in November while Sheri Hudson was learning a new upgrades on her computer; she will be back to do the next issue.

Deb had updated the church brochures and is preparing packets for potential candidates for the Rector.

Deb asked that the information for the Holy Hackers be placed in the Sunday Bulletin for Pat McLaughlin.

Parish Life Team—Barbara Cogley

The hospitality policy has been revised and reviewed by the Vestry. Sara May made a motion to adopt the revised policy, second by Randy Siver, approved unanimously. This policy will be reviewed yearly.

The parish hall decorating committee has almost completed the work. The metal décor was purchased by Nancy Mitchell after review and approval of the committee. We did receive a donation to pay for the items. Randy hung the décor for us. He also completed a frame for the school bulletin board, which will be used by the school students and faculty to inform our parishioners about the school. Jeanne Nicholson will be in charge of this area. Dianne Casson and Debbie Stanton have cleaned the glass case and rearranged and replace some items. They are working on the pictures that were on the walls and will be putting some in an album and some in storage. Ron Whetsell is working on obtaining a TV for the wall to be used for streaming services and sharing information about our church during coffee hour and other events. After discussion, Sara May made a motion that money from the memorial fund be used to purchase the TV and the needed equipment to place on the wall in the Parish Hall, second by Randy Siver and approved unanimously.

Invite, Welcome and Connect Team and Christian Education—Dave Aldrich and Liz Mustin

Zoom Bible Study—The Christian Education committee met and have decided to do “Faithful: Christmas through the eyes of Joseph” during Advent. This will continue on Thursdays at 11AM beginning on November 29th and will be led by Rev. Johnathan Hole. We have material for post-Advent but need to find a couple of leaders.

Newcomers—The Newcomers committee discussed the new people who have attended since the June reopening, as well as maintaining contact with them and welcoming them to our different ministries as they open. We have tried phone contact and email contact Debbie Stanton suggested that we make an announcement during church services that a member of Newcomers would be outside and available to visit with the new people.

The committee discussed the idea to recast the Newcomers group as the Invite/Welcome/Connect Team (IWC) with David Aldrich and Liz Mustin as co-leaders. As a church we embrace the IWC Ministry but the COVID has put our efforts on hold. We expect to move forward with a new Rector fully embracing our efforts. Our entire team now has the book and access to the website. The members support the recast idea and will look for a few new members. The visitor’s bags need to be checked and updated regularly. Deb Yee has just updated the brochures and Nancy Brown will update the bags. Also discussed was to make the hospitality coffee hour after church services more inclusive and they will work with Parish Life Team on some ideas.

New Business:

Annual Meeting: The Vestry discussed some ideas on how to do the Annual Meeting with the COVID guidelines. It was decided to check with the Dioceses to possibly get some ideas.

Christmas Letter: Rev. Janice Barnes will write the Christmas letter which will include a Christmas offering envelope and how to donate poinsettias.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectively submitted,
Barbara Cogley Vestry Secretary

Bylaws Committee

The School Support Team has composed a draft copy of Bylaws for the governance of Holy Trinity Episcopal School. Pursuant to these Bylaws a School Board is being formed. The plan, approved by the Vestry, is to operate for 12 months under the conditions of these "Pre-incorporated Bylaws", revising as necessary during the pilot period, before officially submitting to the Vestry, and the Diocese, for formal approval.

This 12-month pilot period begins January 1, 2021, with a "mid-year review" at the end of the 2021 school year, and then a final version of the Bylaws will be presented for approval to the Vestry and Diocese by December 31, 2021 (in time for presentation at the January 2022 HTEC Annual Meeting).

School Board of Directors

The prescribed slate of the Schools’ Board of Directors includes the Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary, Finance Director, and Long-range Planning Director of the Board. Other Directors not in named positions will serve as Directors at Large.

(Bylaws Article 4, section 2.)

Drawing from the School Support Team we currently have candidate volunteers for the Chair, Vice-chair, Long-range Planning Director, and two Director at Large positions in the persons of Jim Kelly, Sara May, Terry Osborn, Floyd Cogley and Gay Hensley respectively. We still need to fill the Secretary and Finance Director positions. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents in support of our school and contact Jim Kelly at (913) 558-2636 if you are interested and available for either of these School Board Director positions.

Tutors

Names and contact information for approximately 27 Tutor Volunteers have been provided to the Head of School, Justin

McCallister for initial screening, notification, and training.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers

Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents in support of this fun time and contact Jim Kelly at (913) 558-2636 if you are interested and available.

Salvation Army Breakfast Service

Holy Trinity will be resuming Salvation Army breakfast service on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. Volunteers are needed to support this effort. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents in support of this fun time and contact Jim Kelly at (913) 558-2636 if you are interested and available.

Jim Kelly, Vestry, School Support Team, Tutor Coordinator, Salvation Army Breakfast Service and Bell Ringer Lead

Daughters of the King Corner



We are in the process of starting a Chapter of Daughters of the King here at Holy Trinity but with the COVID-19 it has been slowed

down. After a three-month study we take a vow to pray, service, and evangelism. My intent is to put something about daughters in the Tidings every month to introduce you to them and what we are doing. If you have any questions about Daughters talk to Liz Mustin.

Let Us Pray

Prayer for the Inspiration of the Holy Spirit

O God of all life, in each our own way, we are ready. Move us! Whisper us awake with the gentle breath of your voice, or astound us with the mighty sound of your Holy Spirit. Gathered together in this unbroken Trinity of Love, we hear your call in the language of our own hearts. Move boldly within our beloved communities and alight your Spirit upon us, that we might become the flame that shines the way for others.

Send us! We are alive in Christ! May we be afire with the splendor of the Kingdom that announces peace and promises life eternal in all its fullness.

Amen

ROTA

As we enter this new adventure of returning to “in” Church services we are faced with many challenges. One of the biggest challenges is to decide if you are personally ready to rejoin the outside world. Much has been planned and done to provide a safe return for parishioners to our church.

A new challenge for me personally is to find Lectors, LEMs and ushers who are willing to serve again. Last month I sent a hotline message to my current list of service volunteers to ask who were ready to resume their duties. Many people are still cautious of such service. This is understandable and completely ok.

I only had a small number of parishioners who are ready. This means I will be calling on them a lot to serve. To those who are willing I thank you for your service in advance. I am sorry you will be called on often.

Hopefully as we progress more volunteers will feel ready to return. When you are ready please email me.

I know we are all praying for an end to the virus and a return to some kind of normalcy. For myself, I am just glad to be able to attend service again. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this possible.

Pat Casson - ROTA coordinator

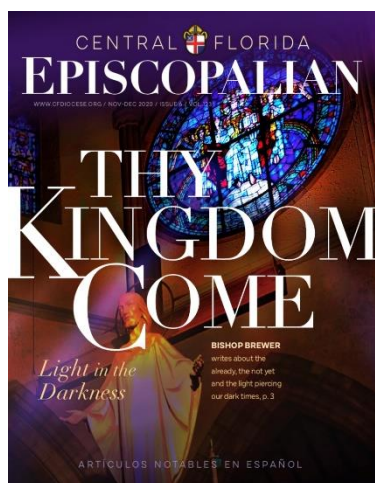
Christian Education

Christian Ed is meeting on Thursday at 11:00 by zoom. Rev. Johnathan Hole is presenting “**Faithful**, Christmas through the eyes of Joseph”. It is a four-week series. I am looking for someone who is willing to lead the next 6 sessions. They have DVD that go with the lessons. The next one is JESUS by Max Lucado. If you would be interested in leading this session let Liz Mustin, 262-894-4412. It would start the

first week of January.

Liz Mustin, Team Leader

Central Florida Episcopalian Magazine Subscriptions



**The new Central Florida
Episcopalian magazine began arriving
in mailboxes last week!**

For those in your church who would like to subscribe (or those who tried to subscribe in the past, but didn't receive their magazine), please let them know they can visit the link below and use the online form to make sure they are on the mailing list. <https://cfdiocese.org/cfemagazine>

Christmas Eve Worship

4:00pm - Eucharist Service

- Sanctuary and Parish Hall
- Communion both locations
- Overflow seating in Parish Hall with livestream on newly installed smart TV

5:15pm – Communion (only)

A walk-through the sanctuary following the service for those who wish to receive communion yet are not ready to attend an indoor service.

At home Worship

Livestreamed, as always, via Facebook

Service video shared thereafter via email

There will not be a service Christmas Day.

Regular worship resumes Sunday, Dec 27.

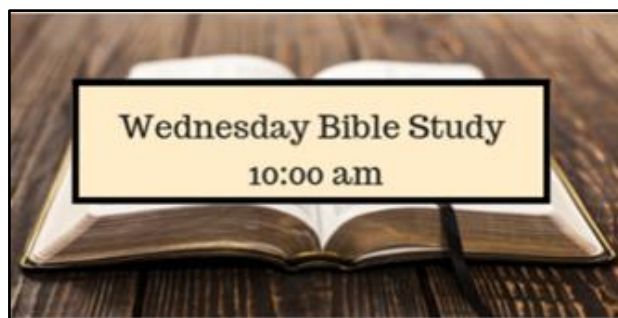
Mid-Week Worship

**Wednesdays – 11:30am – Chapel or Outdoors
Healing and Holy Eucharist service (30 min)**

Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes presides over this service usually attended by a small group of worshippers. We meet in Grace Chapel. Soon, as the overly warm temperatures and humidity subside, the service will move outside, *weather permitting*. If you are wary of returning yet to indoor group worship, perhaps you might feel comfortable in the outdoor setting. There is lots of room to spread out under the shade tree. Individual anointing for healing (optional) is offered at the end of the service.

Bible Study Returns in January!

Would Jesus have taken advantage of ZOOM technology if there was no other way of getting people together? I'm sure He would have. So, let us try it. Put **Wednesday, January 13th, 2021, at 10:00am**, on your calendar; sit in front of your computer, phone or tablet and we will study the lessons for the following Sunday.



The Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes

UPDATE: WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



We wanted to let everyone know that our cemetery will soon be adorned once more with a beautiful wreath for each of our veterans who rest there. This year things are different in our world, but you folks supported this ministry like you always have. For this we want to thank each of you. We have been told our wreaths will arrive on December 16. We have a small team and we plan to place the wreaths on **Friday, December 18 at 10:00**. If anyone wants to come out to help, you are welcome to join us. Otherwise, you can be surprised when you come to church or just drive by. Again, thanks to everyone who takes seriously the Wreaths Across America motto "Remember, Honor and Teach."

Annette Freeman, Program Coordinator

Rectory Tours

Our parish owns a rectory with frontage on Lake Geneva, directly behind the church and school campus. We invite you to visit and tour the 3-bedroom 2-bath property on: **Sunday, December 13th between 8:30-10:30am and 11:30-12:30pm**. Masks and social distancing required. Pictures of the Rectory taken in July 2020, prior to recent exterior enhancements by our Jr Warden Randy Siver and his team, appear at the back of this issue.

Happy Anniversary

Terry & Nancy Mitchell
Jack & Patricia Koller
George & Mary Jane Kaufman
Lee & Charlotte Shawcross
Rod & Kathy Jones
Parker & Charlotte Bauer

Happy Birthday

Betty Torian
Rod Jones
Eve Timchula
Madge Brown
Judy Kraft
Panlilio Madeline
Randy Siver
Patsy Tyler
Anne Harkwitz

PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Loving God, as you trust us to proclaim the joyful news of the Resurrection, so help us to trust you during this journey into our future. Enable us to continue growing in our faith and in our outreach to those in need. As you are calling a new Rector to serve this parish, so help us support, through prayer, Bishop Brewer, Canon Holcombe, and the Vestry as they discern the name of this person. May we all hold fast to the knowledge of your everlasting love for each and every one of us, knowing that the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit desires that which will help us grow more fully into God's holy kingdom. Amen.

*SCROLL DOWN FOR PHOTO PAGES,
PLEASE!*

Pictures of the Rectory





PAINTING OF OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCH

As of: 12/4/2020

