



# The Tidings

## Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and School

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Rector: Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva

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### Power to Witness

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

Acts 1:8.

The above were the words of Jesus to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. They perfectly summarize their mission and what it would



take for them to accomplish it. A few days ago, we commemorated the Day of Pentecost on which the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and enabled them to witness to Christ's life, death, and resurrection in many languages. People from other regions who happened to be in Jerusalem were amazed to hear the disciples speak of God's deeds of power in their native languages even though they were all Galileans.

The context in which the disciples were called to witness to God's deeds of power in Jesus, was not unlike our own. Like us, they were going through a period of great uncertainty due to political, social, and religious instability. Jesus

was leaving them at a time when things were becoming more difficult. Persecution had gotten to the level of losing one's life for the sake of the gospel.

While we at Holy Trinity may not be worried about religious persecution, we have our own challenges which hinder our ability to proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ Jesus. This means that we, like the early disciples, need the Holy Spirit to help us become and do what God is calling us to be and do. In the face of many challenges, the Holy Spirit comforts/helps us, guides/teaches us, and empowers us to fulfill God's mission.

**Comforter/Helper:** Even before his death on the cross, Jesus spent significant time telling his disciples what would happen after his death, resurrection, and ascension. He assured them that he would not leave them as orphans (John 14:18) but would send them the comforter/helper/advocate (John 15:26) to be with them forever. St. Paul reminds all who believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord, that the Holy Spirit affirms/testifies our identity as children of God (Romans 8:16) helps us in our weaknesses, and intercedes for us (Romans 8:26). In the midst of so much sorrow and fear, we need the Holy Spirit to comfort and sustain us.

**Guide/Teacher:** Like the original disciples, there is a lot we don't know about what God has called us to do. Jesus promised that when the Holy Spirit comes, he would guide us into all truth and tell us about the future (John 16:13). In a world full of so many falsehoods, exaggerations, and alternative facts, we need the Holy Spirit to guide us to the truth that will set us free (John 8:32). Most importantly, we need the Holy Spirit to help us discern God's will for us (Ephesians 5:17); which is good, pleasing and perfect (Romans 12:2). This is particularly important as we continue to discern and articulate our particular calling as a parish at this point in our history.

**Empowerer:** I learned long ago that it is one thing to know God's will and another to do it. That's why I often begin church meetings praying that God may "Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to

pursue it, and the grace to accomplish it (BCP 818)." Through the many gifts of the Holy Spirit, both natural and supernatural, we will be able to do what we discern to be God's will.

As we strive to remain faithful to our baptismal vows in this time and place, may we all pray for an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit to comfort, guide, and empower us, for God's mission; in this community and beyond.

*"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."* (Ephesians 3:20-21).

By Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

## **Vestry Minutes Summary**

### **May 26, 2021**

***Starting this month, a summarized version of the monthly Vestry Meeting Minutes will be published in Tidings. This is in response to your feedback asking for more reader-friendly information and less duplication with featured articles. The full detailed Vestry Minutes are still available to all parishioners on request. To receive them by email, please contact Peggy in the church office; printed copies will be placed in the Parish Hall, as always, along with the monthly financial reports.***

\*\*\*

Fr. Samuel opened the meeting with prayer.

**Holy Trinity Episcopal School**—Justin McAllister

Justin discussed the plans for graduation on June 3, 2021. He stated that we have 3 graduates. He is also advertising for a new Science teacher for the school, the current one has resigned due to health issues. He has hired a CPA to audit the school budget; this is a requirement for the scholarship monies. Justin asked the Vestry to approve \$10,130 for annual bonuses for teachers and administrative staff. After discussion and commendations for the great job the teachers and staff have done over the past year, Sara May made a motion that Justin be allotted \$10,130 from the school cash reserve for an annual bonus

for teachers and administrative staff. Passed unanimously.

Russ noted that the school's financial reports were reviewed and accepted. The school has received \$6,913 from the Care Fund as well as reimbursed \$4,492 from the forgiven PPP Loan to cover unplanned COVID related expenses.

### **School Governance—Jim Kelly**

Jim reported that the School Support has made a revision to the By Laws for the School Board. They will be called Policies and Procedures. The change was necessary to meet Diocese requests since our church and school are not separate entities. Motion was made by Jim to accept the document as Policies and Procedures. Second by Barbara Cogley. Passed unanimously. The new school board will be formed and implemented with authority defined in the Policies and Procedures document.

He noted that there are 7 tutors at present and he hopes to have at least 15 by fall. He and the committee are searching for individuals interested in tutoring.

### **Old Business—in person worship services.**

The Vestry discussed the revised General Covid Guidelines received from the Diocese. Following are our new guidelines:

\*Reservations are no longer required. The Guest Register Book will be used again to register visitors as well as provide traceability for guests.

\*4:15 Saturday services—Masks are optional, it is hoped that those NOT vaccinated, or with compromised immunity, will wear masks.

\*8AM Sunday services— Masks are optional, it is hoped that those NOT vaccinated, or with compromised immunity, will wear masks.

\*10:30 AM Sunday services—Masks are optional during service, except while singing at which time they are required for all parishioners.

\* Full capacity at all services.

\*Communion will be received at the rail. Parishioners will stand to receive the host (kneeling pads will not be in place). Celebrant will continue to wear mask during the Eucharistic prayer

\*Cleaning between services will no longer be required

\*The Vestry noted all parishioners should be responsible for self as far as social distancing is concerned. Hand sanitizer and masks will be available at the church door.

\*Fellowship Social Hour will resume on Sunday June 6. Paper products will be used and the food will be simple according to the guidelines from the Dioceses. The goal is to have social time while having a cup of coffee or tea.

### **Next meeting Wednesday June 16 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall.**

Fr. Samuel closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectively submitted,  
Barbara Cogley  
Vestry Secretary

### **Sr. Warden – Dan Curtis**

Greetings and wishes that you are well. It finally feels, after 15 months, that we are emerging from COVID hibernation. We seem to be able to move about and be with one another a little more each day. The survey that Fr. Samuel recently conducted indicates that more than 95% of our congregation has been fully vaccinated. This gives us much relief and the confidence to continue to relieve our COVID Guidelines. The Vestry has reviewed the Diocesan's latest guidelines and have discussed options for moving forward. Following are the guidelines that were decided upon at the May 26<sup>th</sup> Vestry meeting. We will be communicating these guidelines through several of our communication vehicles. As always, your feedback and comments are welcome and encouraged.

### **Guidelines as of May 29, 2021**

**Reservations** – NOT required for any services. The Guest Register Book will be used again to register all visitors and provide traceability information for guests

### **Saturday 4:15 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 a.m. Services:**

- Full capacity

- Masks are optional. It is hoped those NOT vaccinated, or with compromised immunity, will wear masks

### **Sunday 10:30 a.m. Service:**

- Full Capacity
- Masks are optional during service, EXCEPT while singing at which time masks ARE required for all parishioners

### **Communion**

- Communion will be received at the altar rail. Parishioners will stand to receive the host (kneelers will not be in place).
- Celebrant will continue to wear a mask during the Eucharistic Prayer.

### **Coffee Hour and Fellowship Events**

- Masks are optional
- It is hoped that those who are not vaccinated, or with compromised immunity, will continue to practice original guidelines such as wearing a mask and maintaining moderate distancing.

### **Cleaning**

- Special cleaning between 8 and 10:30 services is no longer required

### **Fellowship / Coffee Hour**

- Coffee hour will resume on Sunday, June 6. Paper products will be utilized.

It is exciting to think that we are finally emerging from the pandemic. We hope that all of our ministries will soon be back together and renewing our pledge to do God's work. Several events are in the works and being scheduled for the fall. I look forward to seeing all of you very soon.

Stay well and safe,  
God's Peace  
Dan Curtis, Sr. Warden

## **May 2021 Building and Grounds Report**

- 1) New bark chips have been added to the school parking areas.
- 2) No parking signs have been posted on the lawn outside of Peggy's office.
- 2) School children have been learning how to use a pressure washer by cleaning their picnic tables.
- 3) Bids are being taken to relay our brick paver pathways.
- 4) The window project is moving along nicely. It has been decided to continue on with completing the project. Hence all colored windows will be done. Upon completion the large circular window above the entrance will be removed and completely rebuilt. NOTE: our contractor, Mastrosimone, will be donating one of the remaining windows.
- 5) Church School- The front entrance stairs to the office will be removed and replaced with a wider set. This will provide a warmer welcoming feel. NOTE: this project will be done after all church window are done. The contractor has a limited number of available workers.

The new school building that has leaked is being repaired. New roofing and gutting of the inside of the two classrooms is underway.

There is a need to cover the walkway between the two new modular buildings. A metal fabrication company will be looking at a possible design for this.

Justin would like to erect a flagpole in front of the school, so we are checking for pricing for this.

I would like to call out the fantastic work that Chris Redding is doing around the property. God sent an angel to us. He is a Blessing for sure.

Respectfully submitted, in Christ's name  
Randy Siver, Junior Warden



## Treasurer's Report

For all things come of Thee,  
and of Thine own  
have we given Thee.

### Treasurer's Summary Report April, 2021

Contributions	Actual	Budget
Pledges	\$88,071	\$86,667
Other Income	<u>\$ 3,113</u>	<u>\$ 6,533</u>
Total	\$91,184	\$93,200
Expenses	\$100,613	\$117,740

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Russ Casson, Treasurer

#### For Pastoral Care Please Contact:

Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva  
920-226-0050 - cell

Mike Browne – 352-571-4441  
Pastoral Care Team Leader

Holy Trinity Office – 352-787-1500  
office@holytrinityfp.com

## Christian Education Report

Rev. Janice will be finishing up Bible Study on Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> with the readings for that upcoming Sunday. She will take the summer off and begin in the fall. Thank you Rev. Janice for leading the Bible Study on zoom during the pandemic.

Christian Education will finish the second of the Trilogy of the Resurrected Life on this Thursday. Fr. Samuel will be leading the third part of the Trilogy called the Spirit Filled Life starting on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. He has already began teaching about the Holy Spirit from his sermon on Sunday. After the six weeks of class, we will take the rest of the summer off.

Hopefully when we begin again in September we will be able to hold both classes in person.

Liz Mustin



## Salvation Army

### “For the Children”

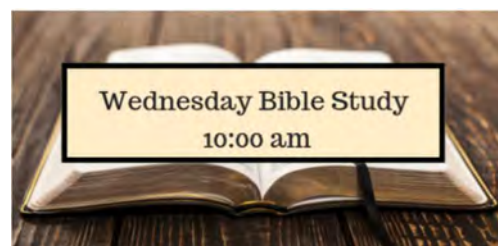
The month of June has been designated as “For the Children” by the Salvation Army. This is due to the large number of children in Lake and Sumter Counties who have been designated food insecure, this means they do not know where their next meal will come from or when it will come. Our Little Red Wagon has returned to each of our Service times. So, when you see it next time, I hope it reminds you to buy an item or items of food with children in mind. They are children and they should not lack for food.

First I should feed the children, my own family. Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs.

Mark 7:27

With my many thanks,  
Annette Freeman

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES – DROP IN!



## BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday morning, June 2nd will be the last day of our "spring term." Classes will resume in September. A big "thank you" to all who faithfully continued exploring the Sunday lessons with me, through Zoom - it was a learning experience on many levels and while it could be repeated, I hope we'll never have to do it again!

Led by Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes



### Push into the Deep, A Sonnet

By parishioner Ron Whetsell,

February 2019

Go out to the deep as Paul in his boat,  
Jesus as Captain, his courage your cloak,  
You think to return as resistance you meet,  
His grace will sustain, his blessing you seek.

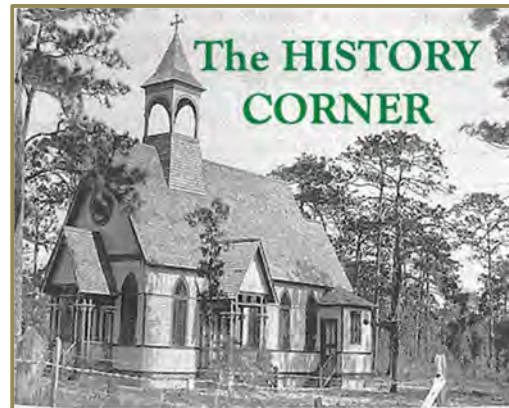
Mysteries of life unfold in the deep,  
Great risk and reward, a harvest to reap,  
Full of unknowns where you're not in control,  
More push than pull speaks to spirit and soul.

To journey unknowns, a follower must  
Be obedient, find strength and learn to trust,  
Where confidence fails your faith will succeed,  
As servant to God, your limits exceed.

So, open your heart and find where he leads,  
Push into the deep, his love as your seed.



The School Support Team seeks at least 8 additional tutors for the Fall 2021 Term. Prospective tutor volunteers must be willing to devote at least one hour per week with an assigned student with learning differences at Holy Trinity Episcopal School. Training is provided. Classes and tutoring this fall will be on-site. Parishioners (as well as community volunteers) are encouraged to contact Jim Kelly, School Support Team Leader, at [jimkelly8143@gmail.com](mailto:jimkelly8143@gmail.com) for further information and to discuss your interest!



### Our Church Bell

Have you ever wondered about the origins of our church bell mounted to the left of the main stairway into the sanctuary? Its history is fairly straightforward yet interesting. Although the church originally had a tower (see above), the tower did not contain a bell. The belfry was removed in the 1920's following countless problems with bats, lightning strikes and roof leaks. No one seems to know much about our church bell or when it was acquired. It may, however, have been the bell donated by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in 1953 to St. James Church 'for use in its mission stations.' Which would make sense as St. James and Holy Trinity were yoked for the first time under Fr. Beaubien,

and this arrangement continued and was manifested in various ways until Fred Paddock became vicar of Holy Trinity in the early 1960's. Source: *Coming Home: The History of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Fruitland Park FL*, a book written by beloved parishioner Ivan Ford, 2003. This chronicle of our church's history through 2009 is available for purchase on [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).



Happy  
Birthday

George Kaufman  
P. Scott Colligan  
Richard Barringer  
Donna Zegray  
Patricia Isaacson  
Roger Wilcox  
Floyd Cogley  
Janet Dearcopp  
Cesar Noble  
Annette Freeman  
Janet Callahan  
Sid Yee  
Lee Shawcross  
Jim Kelly

Happy  
Anniversary

Russell & Diane Casson  
Leland & Sue Lewis  
John & Jeanette Rodenbaugh  
Mike & Debbie Lally



# Pentecost Sunday 2021



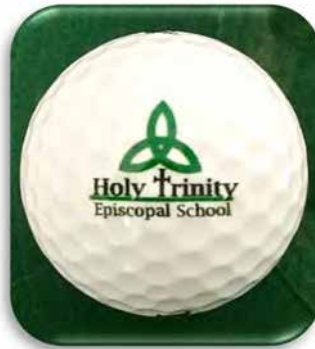


# **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>**

## **Our Annual Charity Golf Tournament**

**A Benefit for Holy Trinity  
Episcopal School**  
our primary ministry



### **Harbor Hills Country Club**

Lady Lake, FL  
overlooking Lake Griffin

Registration opens  
this summer! Not a golfer?  
Many parish volunteers are  
needed to ensure a fun, safe,  
and successful day.

2021 Tournament Chair  
Sid Yee  
sidney1949yee@gmail.com

# HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

June 5 - June 27

If you are unable to serve PLEASE find your own substitute and inform Pat Casson([Twofus9600@aol.com](mailto:Twofus9600@aol.com)) and the office. Thank You

JUNE 5 & 6

LEM

LECTOR

USHER

USHER

SAT 4:15

Bob Freeman

Annette Freeman

Barbara Cogley

Floyd Cogley

SUN 8

Parker Bauer

Ivan Ford

Paul Harmon

Gary Sarto

SUN 10:30

Charlotte Shawcross

Pat Casson

Bob Hensley

Russ Casson

JUNE 12 & 13

LEM

LECTOR

USHER

USHER

Bob Freeman

Jerry Huetz

Judy Huetz

Jerry Huetz

Ivan Ford

Patsy Tyler

Barbara Cogley

Floyd Cogley

Randy Siver

Randy Siver

Nancy Mitchell

Terry Mitchell

JUNE 19 & 20

LEM

LECTOR

USHER

USHER

Bob Freeman

Deb Yee

Deb Yee

Paul Harmon

Randy Siver

Charlotte Bauer

Doris Brennan

Patsy Tyler

Jonathan Hole

Pat Casson

Gary Sarto

JUNE 26 & 27

LEM

LECTOR

USHER

USHER

David Aldrich

David Aldrich

Bob Hensley

Gary Sarto

Parker Bauer

Doris Brennan

Barbara Cogley

Floyd Cogley

Mike Browne

Russ Casson

Russ Casson

Bob Hensley



## HOLY HACKERS GOLF FELLOWSHIP – MAY 2021

