



# 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: Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva

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## Gratitude and Generosity

*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).

Last month, I shared my experience and thoughts about the kind of church we are continuously becoming – a warm and welcoming church for all to belong, become, and bless, in the name of Christ. The more I think about this kind of church, the more I think about the core values that are needed to nurture and sustain such an environment. Of the many core values, I have in mind Gratitude and Generosity seem to encompass all others. All we need to continue becoming the kind of church God is calling us to be, is to be more grateful and generous people.



### 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 also 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 happier we will become, 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.

### **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 the 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 generosity of spirit – kindness, compassion, forgiveness, presence, etc.

### **Growing in Gratitude and Generosity**

One does not have to look far to see the numerous expressions of gratitude and generosity in our parish family. I see it in word and action – in smiles, in offerings of time, talent, and treasure. My prayer and hope is that we will continue to grow to become even more grateful and generous people.

While this should happen organically, it will also require some intentionality. Our upcoming newcomer gatherings and the Bounce Back Sunday events are some examples of intentional expressions of gratitude and generosity. It is my hope that these events will be opportunities for us to express our thanks to God for all the blessings bestowed upon us, and to one another for the gifts we are to each other.

As I write this brief reflection, I am filled with gratitude to God for the privilege of being part of this wonderful church family; and for each one of you for the gifts you are and bring to our shared life and mission. 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, become, and bless. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

By Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

## **Vestry Minutes Summary**

There was no monthly Vestry Meeting in July, but will be resuming in August.

## **Parish Life Hospitality Committee**



We are looking for individuals who are interested in serving on the hospitality committee. This would involve the coffee hour, memorial services and dinners in the Parish Hall.

The immediate need is for volunteers for the coffee hour social after services. Needed are one or two individuals (who attend the 8 AM service) to set up prior to 8 AM service on Sunday, two individuals (who attend 10:30 service) to clean up following the 10:30 service

coffee hour. Food items will be simple breakfast breads, cheese, crackers and cookies, juice and coffee. You need not have all of these. Volunteers can agree to purchase food items as needed or they can be provided by the Parish Life Leader. HTEC has a budget of \$25 per Sunday. Just turn in receipt to the office for reimbursement. Coffee, tea and paper products are supplied by the church.

Please contact Barbara Cogley at 352-874-1307 or [barbcpq@gmail.com](mailto:barbcpq@gmail.com) for complete details.

## Treasurer's Report

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

### Treasurer's Summary Report June, 2021

| Contributions | Actual           | Budget           |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Pledges       | \$121,204        | \$130,000        |
| Other Income  | <u>\$ 22,834</u> | <u>\$ 19,600</u> |
| Total         | \$144,038        | \$149,600        |
| Expenses      | \$165,672        | \$180,260        |

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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](mailto:office@holytrinityfp.com)

## HTEC School Board:

The school board is working closely with our Head of School, Justin McCallister on HTEC School tuition. This coming week a core team, including the Long-Range Planning Director, Terry Osborne, Finance Director, Paul Harmon, will present to the full board a plan to raise the schools' tuition over the next two years in anticipation of the State of Florida's announced plan to change school funding policies.

## Tutors

School Board Vice Chair, Sara May is working to develop training material and a tutor - teacher interface program for new and returning tutors for the coming 2021-2022 school year.

Jim Kelly

HTEC School Board Chair

Vestry, School Support Team Lead

## IWC Report



Invite • Welcome • Connect

## Attention Newcomers:

We are planning two events for new people to come and meet other new people and some of the parishioners. One will be held on August, 13th, 5:00-7:00 and the other will be Friday, August 27th from 5:00-7:00. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend one of these events plan to join us on either of these days. There will be a poster in the parish hall that you can sign up on which day you want to come or call the church office. The event is being organized and will be hosted by Invite, Welcome, and Connect ministry team. Any questions contact Liz Mustin (262-894-4412) or Dave Aldrich (203-258-9643).

## Bounce Back Sunday

Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 3rd, 2021 beginning at 10:30 am with an outdoor Eucharist followed by a free cookout, music, fun & games, back to school blessings, and tours of the church and school. This celebration and homecoming is bringing us all back together and thanking God for watching over us during the pandemic. Parish family, school families, alumni, community neighbors and friends are all invited. More information will come later on how to sign up.

Liz Mustin & Dave Aldrich, Team Leaders

## Holy Hackers Golf August 14<sup>th</sup> Scheduled



Well boys and girls, we did not get to play our monthly scramble this month, but we will be back on the course in August. The Holy Hackers outing is scheduled for Saturday, August 14th. If you would like to be a part of the festivities there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall - or you can simply send me an e-mail asking to be added to the list of players and I will take care of it. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone out at the Pennbrooke Fairways next month.

Thanks, Your Golf Guy  
Pat McLaughlin

## Great Online Resources!

***Forward Day by Day* Available on your Smartphone**



Inspiring readers since its first issue was published in 1935, *Forward Day by Day* remains a wonderful resource for daily prayer and Bible study. Each daily **meditation reflects on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer.**

A free newly enhanced *Forward Day by Day* app is available for your smartphone. *Forward Day by Day* is also available as a daily podcast (audio recording), an e-book on Kindle or Apple, and to follow daily on Facebook and Twitter. To find links for all, please click [here](http://www.forwardmovement.org/Pages/About/Subscriptio.aspx) ([www.forwardmovement.org/Pages/About/Subscriptio.aspx](http://www.forwardmovement.org/Pages/About/Subscriptio.aspx)).

## Episcopal News Service

Subscribe to the [official online news service](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org) ([www.episcopalnewsservice.org](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org)) of the Episcopal Church! It features US and worldwide church news, podcasts, training opportunities, and conferences of interest to Episcopalians.

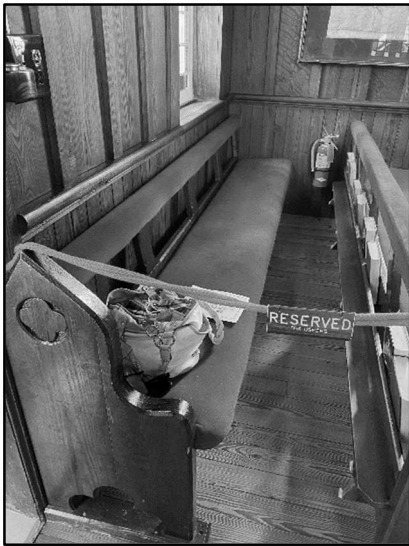


## Episcopal Church Foundation

ECF is an independent, lay-led and inclusive organization that helps build, vitalize and transform Episcopal faith communities. Their programs inspire and nurture church leaders, help raise and manage financial resources, and provide high-quality and innovative resources and ideas to implement throughout the church. Check out their [new website](http://www.ecf.org) ([www.ecf.org](http://www.ecf.org)) for ideas which could fuel the ministry/ies you're involved with at Holy Trinity! Especially interesting is the Vital Practices area: blogs, webinars, tools, best practices. Why reinvent the wheel when tried and true practices which may well serve our parish's evolving needs are at our fingertips!



## From the Back Pew



Spring Lake Road was not paved until the early 1960's. Until then it was a dirt road and on Sunday's, parishioners would park along the road in front of the fence and enter through the Lych Gate and into the South door of the Church.

Two large pine trees stood outside the fence just west of the Lych Gate. They had been there for decades and served as a place for parishioners to tie their horse and buggies in the 19th and early 20th Century. Hitching rings were still visible in both trees until they died and were removed in 1989.

The paved road was located closer to the fence to discourage parking except, in order to accommodate the pine trees, the road bends away from the fence before it reaches the curve.

Next month: Has the vacant field next to the School always been vacant?

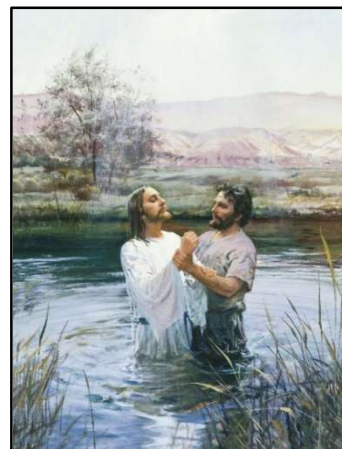
Russ Casson



Source: Excerpt from **The Chetwynd Chronicles: The British Colony of Lake County, Florida 1882-1902**, Donna Bott (former parishioner), April 2013

“This recently discovered, rather idyllic picture is, to my knowledge, the only picture of Spring Lake Road as it once was many decades ago. Holy Trinity’s lych gate... is pictured as well as the trees into which hitching rings were attached for those who rode horses to church. Because of lightning and disease, the trees were removed. Unfortunately, none of the hitching rings were preserved. The road, once known as Church Road, is paved.”

## The Dreadful Beheading



John the Baptist, the innocent,  
For Jesus he set the stage,  
He baptized many new citizens,  
For salvation in Jesus name.

The word of God came to John,  
Who danced while in the womb,  
Preaching a baptism of repentance,  
For forgiveness, avoidance of doom.

At the pinnacle of John's ministry,  
He baptized Jesus our Lord,  
It began God's march to mercy,  
Holy Trinity the bible record.

Herodias, the wife of Herod,  
Hated John with a great passion,  
Her betrayal John freely recounted,  
The critique had turned her ashen.

Salome delighted Herod Antipas,  
And asked John's head delivered,  
Followed a dreadful beheading,  
All the Jews in time did shiver.

The powerful have always been active,  
To stop the truth of the Word,  
Prison, executions, and war,  
Like a drink that evil stirs.

Still Jesus and his message live,  
With John on a throne above,  
Satan no match in his quiver,  
For God's living word of love.

July 20, 2021  
Ron Whetsell

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Oct 2 **Blessing of the Animals**

Oct 3 **Bounce Back Sunday!**

Oct 30 **Annual Golf Tournament –**

A Fundraiser for Holy Trinity  
Episcopal School

Happy  
Anniversary

Jerry & Carol Wang  
Richard & Louise White

Happy  
Birthday

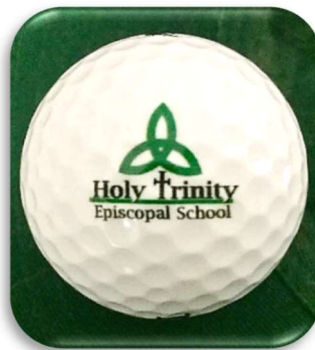
Cherrie Whetsell  
Linda Bouchard  
Louise White  
John Ferris  
Vicki Gordon  
Arthur Hanson  
Eileen Disinger  
Nancy Mitchell  
Debbie Siver  
James Foster  
Sally Scavone  
Deborah Harmon  
Liz Mustin  
Dan White  
Patricia Koller

# **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](mailto:sidney1949yee@gmail.com)

# Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and School

2201 Spring Lake Road  
Fruitland Park FL 34731

Office Phone: 352-787-1500  
School Phone: 352-787-8855

The Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva – Rector  
[rector@holytrinityfp.com](mailto:rector@holytrinityfp.com)  
Cell: 920-226-0050  
The Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes – Priest

## Church Staff:

Justin McCallister – Head of School  
Russ Casson - Treasurer  
Peggy Barry – Parish Administrator &  
Bookkeeper  
Sharon Redding – Music Director  
Christopher Redding – Sexton/Handyman  
Lori Clark - Housekeeping

## Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 3:00pm

## In-Person and Livestream Services:

Saturday 4:15pm (Sanctuary)  
Sunday 8:00am (Sanctuary)  
Sunday 10:30am (Sanctuary)  
Wednesday Holy Eucharist & Healing 11:30am

## Contact Information:

Email: [office@holytrinityfp.com](mailto:office@holytrinityfp.com)  
Announcements Hot Line:  
[holy-trinity-hot-line@googlegroups.com](mailto:holy-trinity-hot-line@googlegroups.com)

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

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/holytrinityfruitlandpark](https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityfruitlandpark)

Newsletter Articles:  
Sheri Hudson, [shudson53202@gmail.com](mailto:shudson53202@gmail.com)  
Deb Yee, [debkhogan@gmail.com](mailto:debkhogan@gmail.com)



## Vestry:

Dan Curtis – Sr. Warden  
[dan.curtis57@gmail.com](mailto:dan.curtis57@gmail.com)  
618-694-5560

Randy Siver – Jr. Warden  
[siverr1950@gmail.com](mailto:siverr1950@gmail.com)  
352-430-0050

Dave Aldrich – Invite & Connect Team Leader  
[Aldrichkp68@gmail.com](mailto:Aldrichkp68@gmail.com)  
352-461-0969

Barbara Cogley – Vestry Secretary;  
Parish Life Team Leader  
[cogleyfb@aol.com](mailto:cogleyfb@aol.com)  
352-357-8018

Jim Kelly – School Support Team Leader  
[Jimkelly8143@gmail.com](mailto:Jimkelly8143@gmail.com)  
913-558-2636

Sara May – Special Projects  
[scmay@att.net](mailto:scmay@att.net)  
847-848-4690

Liz Mustin – Christian Education Team Leader;  
Welcome/Newcomers Team Leader  
[lmmaui88@gmail.com](mailto:lmmaui88@gmail.com)  
262-894-4412

Mark Welton – Finance Team Leader  
[mark72@gmail.com](mailto:mark72@gmail.com)  
845-220-6206

Deb Yee – Communication Team Leader  
[debkhogan@gmail.com](mailto:debkhogan@gmail.com)  
703-472-1573