



CATHEDRAL CONNECTIONS

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL | SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020



FINDING NEW WAYS TO SERVE



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DESIGN

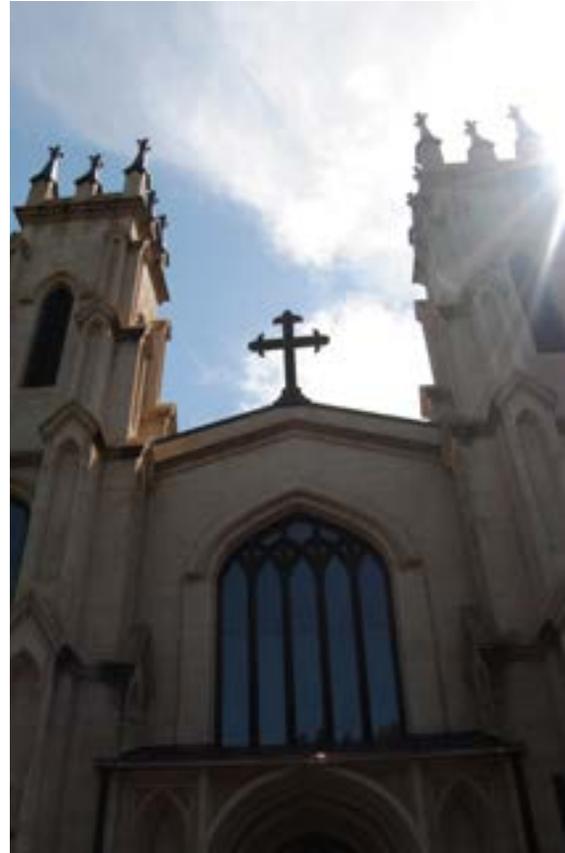
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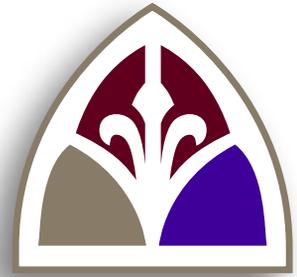
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Trinity Episcopal Cathedral invites all to experience a joyful relationship with God, to share friendship with one another, and to make Jesus Christ known in the world.



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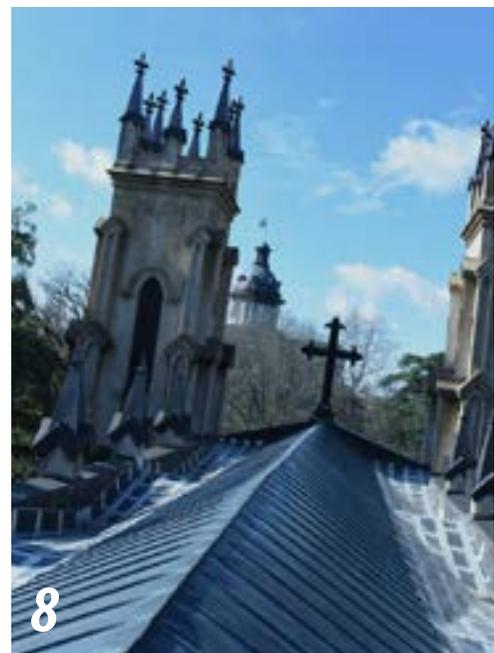
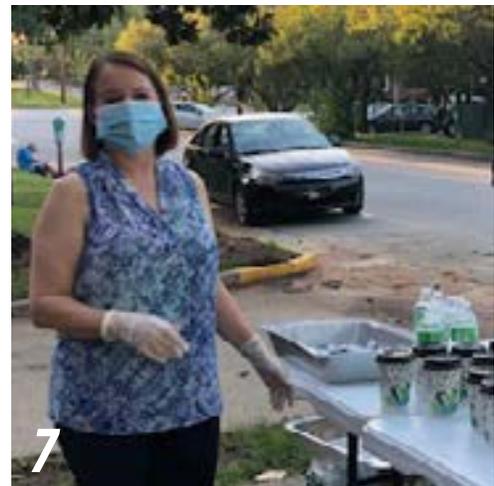
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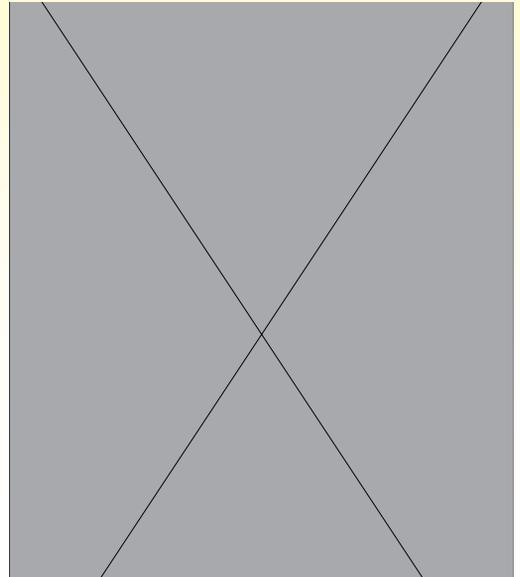


A MESSAGE FROM OUR ACTING DEAN, CANON ANDREW GROSSO

EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONLY BEEN A MATTER OF MONTHS, it seems as if the COVID-19 pandemic has been with us much longer than that. The conditions imposed by the pandemic—the tension of dealing with a threat that seems both dangerously close and yet far away, the loss of contact brought about by social distancing, the uncertainties we have about the future—all seem to have dragged on longer than any of us expected. The combined effects of these conditions can begin to wear on even the most resilient among us.

And yet I can't help but think this extraordinary time, unsettling and disorienting as it is, also provides us with a tremendous opportunity for spiritual growth. These last few weeks, I've repeatedly been reminded of a passage from Thomas Merton's *Thoughts in Solitude*, a work Merton wrote over the course of two years during which he experienced protracted physical isolation. One of the themes to which Merton repeatedly returns in that book has to do with the spiritual value of the wilderness.

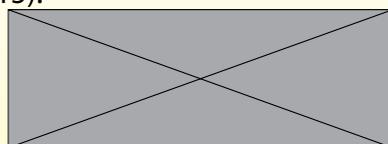
The wilderness, he wrote, is a place that is "supremely valuable in the eyes of God precisely because it has no value to man. The wasteland was the land that could never be wasted by men because it offered them nothing. There was nothing to attract them. There was nothing to exploit. The desert was created simply to be itself, not to be transformed by men into something else." Therefore, says Merton, the wilderness is "the logical dwelling place for the man who seeks to be nothing but himself—that is to say, a creature solitary and poor and dependent on no one but God, with no great project standing between himself and his Creator."



There is certainly nothing in the COVID-19 pandemic to attract us: the pandemic offers us nothing, it resists our efforts to transform it into something meaningful or valuable. It has upset our "projects" and revealed to us something of our poverty, our dependence, and the spiritual isolation to which we were subject even before we found it necessary to endure physical isolation.

But for all those reasons, our present circumstances provide us with an unusual opportunity to learn what it means to live in a way that is mindful of our creatureliness and our dependence on God. They invite us to put aside what we think of as the necessary activity and labor of our lives, and instead to attend to the work of cultivating our capacity for stillness, for silence, for patient endurance, and for the humility that enables us to ask for daily bread and to give thanks when we receive it.

Before he began his public ministry, Jesus found himself driven out into the wilderness of the desert (Mt 4.1-11; Lk 4.1-13). May we, as he did, emerge from our own wilderness with a more profound sense of God's provision for us, and a renewed dedication to the work he has given us to do (Mt 4.17; Lk 4.14-15).



MEET TRINITY'S NEW ASSOCIATE ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER, William Douglas

- by *Laura Kotti*

Returning to Columbia was a thrill for William Douglas. Moving and beginning a new job amid the novel coronavirus pandemic, however, was a situation that at first appeared fraught with risk.

Before coming to Trinity, Douglas was living in New York and serving as the Lloyd Cast Organ Fellow at The Cathedral of All Saints. Transitioning from one COVID-19 hotspot to another could have posed significant challenges; however, Douglas says the process has been smooth. "Dr.

Johnson and Donald Benson are to thank for making my transition to Trinity trouble-free," he says. "Dr. Johnson and I were in routine conversation about the impacts of COVID-19 on South Carolina and Trinity. I knew there would not be a lack of work considering my time at The Cathedral of All Saints in New York as COVID-19 took hold of the U.S. Music departments across the country are working harder than ever to preserve their sense of community while being safe. Trinity is no exception to this truth."

Douglas earned his Master of Music in organ performance at the University of South Carolina, where he studied with Trinity's own Dr. Jared Johnson. (Interestingly, Douglas was also one of my students when he took his freshman English class as an undergraduate). The opportunity to work with Trinity and return to Columbia was one he could not pass up.

"The reputation at Trinity for having one of the preeminent music programs in the country was an immediate drawing card," Douglas says. "The opportunity to work with Dr. Johnson is a privilege and was another deciding factor."

Although the face of worship continues to change, Douglas is enthusiastic about the role of music in Trinity's services, especially "accompanying the psalms. Anglican chant is one of the unique characteristics of the choral tradition that the Episcopal Church

has," Douglas says.

"The chanting of the psalms at Trinity is executed in a manner of utmost sensitivity and musicianship."

One of Douglas's passions is also exploring forgotten or overlooked composers. "I tend to gravitate towards the repertoire of the late-romantic period. Finding respectable repertoire by composers to which time has not

been kind is something I enjoy. I have been a fan of Alan Gray's (1855-1935) compositions for some time. Most recently, I have taken a liking to the music of Ernst Richter (1808-1879) and Gustav Merkel (1827-1885)."

Despite the enormity of the pandemic, Douglas is excited "to serve in such a well-respected cathedral," and has a message for Trinity's community. "I look forward to conversations on the lawn, bumping into congregants at the grocery store, and all the other interactions we may share when it is safe to do so."



TRINITY CALLING: PASTORAL CARE



When you were a child, was reciting the prayer “Thank you, God, for...” part of your nightly routine before bedtime?

As a small child, I had no idea what the word “technology” meant; and I certainly could never have conceived of what technology allows us to do today. However, during this strange, disrupted time, one of the things for which I am truly thankful is the technology that helps keep us connected, though we are physically apart.

Shortly before Trinity went into “pandemic mode,” the Lay Chaplains group met with the goal of trying to reach all of the senior congregants (almost 500 individuals) in order to update church records as to their preferred phone numbers, and to be sure they knew who to call in case they needed assistance. Parishioners seventy-five and over were divided by zip code, and members of the Lay Chaplains group were given a list to be called. Each caller was to make at least two phone attempts then send a brief note to those we were unable to reach by phone.

Joan Danforth took charge of coordinating the existing information we found and updating our records. It was surprising to those of us doing the calling how many had changed their phone number and not notified the church.

As the Lay Chaplains were in the process of calling, everything we considered “standard operating procedure” at Trinity changed in response to the pandemic.

continued

DURING A PANDEMIC

- by *Connie Britt*

Under the leadership of Scotty Frantz a group of 67 volunteers set out to call our congregants in order to check on their needs during the pandemic and update their contact information. According to Scotty, “545 person-to-person contacts were made, and 331 messages were left on voicemails. Many calls were referred to the clergy, Lay Chaplains, or the Order of St. Luke depending on the need. The overwhelming messages expressed were an appreciation of the work of the staff during this crisis, gratitude for the online services, and a willingness to help where needed.”

Canon Andrew Grosso described the value of these calls this way, “Over the past few months both the Lay Chaplains and the members of the Order of St. Luke have provided invaluable ministry to all at the cathedral. Their willingness to contact those in need, to offer prayers and other forms of support, and to walk with them through difficult times has been tremendously important during this extraordinary time when we are not able to meet regularly. The ministries of the Lay Chaplains and the Order of St. Luke continue to be a shining example of the way the members of the Body of Christ uphold one another, and thereby contribute to the well-being of the whole body.”

From live-streaming services to zoom meetings, from FaceTiming with friends to the most basic communication technology—the one-to-one phone call, our technology has truly been a God-send. I definitely want to end each day saying, “Thank you God for the telephone and all our modern technology.”

A last request: please, if you or someone in your household did not receive a call, notify the church to be sure your correct phone number is on file.



IS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE AT TRINITY?

The Pastoral Care team would like to take this opportunity to educate every member of Trinity about how important up-to-date information is to the Cathedral.

Every Trinity member should notify the church of a change in phone number, email address and/or address change. Those can be sent to Allison Fowler, Membership Secretary, at afowler@trinitysc.org.

It is vital that a family member or close friend notify the church of illness, surgery, hospitalization, or death in the family. We are not able to obtain information from hospitals any longer; therefore, we must rely on our members. It is far better to receive calls from three or four people about someone’s serious illness than to not be aware of it at all.

Also, there is an addition to the Trinity website where any pastoral care needs may be sent directly to the clergy confidentially: trinitysc.org/serve/pastoral-care.

TRINITY LEARNING CENTER

Summer fun in the midst of a pandemic

- by Jean Knowlton

Trinity's Learning Center reopened on June 1, and we know there has been great interest in the Center's reopening procedures. In order to keep our "Hallowed Halls" sanitized and free of outside germs, we implemented a car line which functions like an elementary school car line. Parents pull up to a specified place, put the car into park and wait for a TLC staff member to pick-up or deliver children to their specified destination. At the car, a gloved and masked teacher takes the children's temperature and helps them exit the car.

Once our children have entered the building—and at every entry time throughout the day—the following procedures take place:

- Hands are washed at portable sinks in place at the main entry.
- Faces are wiped with wet baby wipes.
- Shoes are sprayed with hospital disinfectant spray.
- Masks are worn by children ages three and older.
- Each classroom has personalized color-coded masks that are washed and dried daily. No masks come in from home.

Teachers, assistants, and support staff maintain daily sanitation procedures that were already in place pre-pandemic, including sanitizing table tops, changing tables, diapers and potty's, classroom books and toys, water fountains, door knobs, stair rails, all areas where food/milk is served, and floor areas where entry and exit occurs.

The TLC is cleaned each evening by our professional janitorial company. Every Friday, they set off a "PROTECT" Anti-Viral/Anti-Bacterial Bomb in each area of the Learning Center.

So far, these measures have allowed the TLC to return to a "new normal." The children have been thrilled to be back together, and the happy sounds of playing and children's laughter that fills the halls once again was a welcome sound for us all!



SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST: FINDING NEW WAYS TO SERVE

- by David Pable

It's been a few months since we have been able to gather together in the Cathedral. While virtual church has been a great offering, there's nothing quite like gathering at Trinity on a Sunday morning. Like everything else in pandemic-times, the Sunday Breakfast ministry has adapted to be able to continue to meet the needs of our hungry neighbors. Thankfully, due to some quick and creative thinking, the Sunday Breakfast has continued to serve a hot meal every Sunday morning since the pandemic began.



Each week, volunteers arrive at Trinity long before sunrise, masked and ready to serve. Through a partnership with other churches committed to this ministry, a truck full of hot and freshly made coffee, eggs, potatoes, biscuits, and sausage, along with a massive box of bananas, is delivered to Trinity to be packaged into individual to-go boxes.

Inside Satterlee, volunteers assemble breakfast to be distributed on tables set up just outside. By the time the sun has risen, this ministry has provided over 100 of our brothers and sisters with a hot meal to start their day. Thanks be to God!

Many of our elderly or immune compromised volunteers are currently unable to serve with the Breakfast at this time. If you feel comfortable, we would love to have you help us serve our neighbor, as Jesus has called us to do.

We may not be able to gather around the altar like we used to quite yet, but we can still serve our neighbor around the table, sharing in one of the earliest ministries of the church.



Matthew 15:32-38

Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I have compassion for these people; they had already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way.' His disciples answered, 'Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?' 'How many loaves do you have?' Jesus asked. 'Seven,' they replied, 'and a few small fish.'

He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. They all ate and

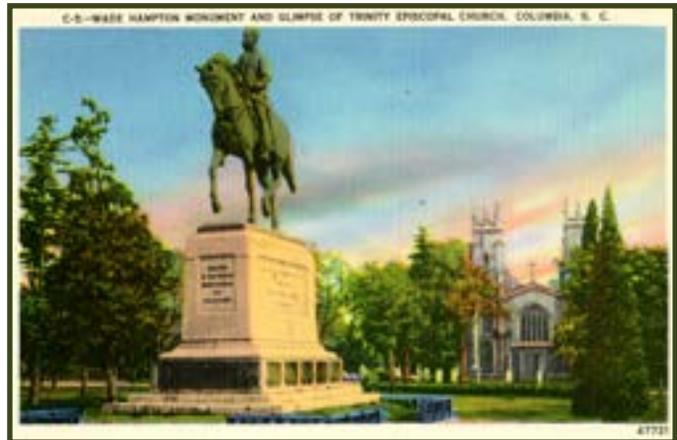
were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was four thousand men, besides women and children.

TIES OF MINDS AND BODIES: TRINITY CATHEDRAL AND THE

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral's churchyard and the South Carolina State House grounds have long been closely tied to one another. Clustered together at the literal and symbolic heart of the state, the two sites feature the city's most architecturally sophisticated nineteenth-century buildings, both of which survived the burning of the city in the Civil War. Those who planned some of the State House's monuments also explicitly connected the ideas and achievements of South Carolinians buried in Trinity's churchyard with those memorialized on the public grounds across Sumter Street. The churchyard is their eternal resting place; the State House campus honors their lives on earth.

Some ties are obvious. Friends and colleagues of James Francis Byrnes (1882-1972), the state's most nationally prominent twentieth-century politician, chose a site directly across from his

grave site for his monument at the corner of Sumter and Gervais Streets. The effort began in the early 1960s while Byrnes was still alive; he presumably shared his intention for Trinity as his final resting place. In order to make way for the new statue, the state moved the Monument to the Women of the Confederacy (relocated there in 1935 from its original location at the bottom of the south steps of the State House). Besides its proximity to Byrnes's grave, the site also had the advantage of being across the street from the newly renovated state supreme court (formerly the US post office); thus, an invisible triangle unites Byrnes's



grave, the South Carolina supreme court, and his monument. The sculpture by Charles Cropper Parks (1922-2012) similarly recognizes Byrnes's appointment to the US Supreme Court by depicting the secretary of state, governor, congressman, and senator in his judicial robes.

Other connections between the monuments on the State House grounds and the Trinity churchyard are more difficult to see today but were essential to their conception. When the state erected its monument to governor, senator, and Confederate general Wade Hampton III (1818-1902) in 1906, it originally located the statue just northeast of the State House and across from his grave near the Sire Oak in the Trinity churchyard. Centered on the church's facade, the bold equestrian statue by Frederick Wellington Ruckstull (1853-1942) forever faced west across the Congaree River to the camp of Union General Tecumseh Sherman.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE GROUNDS

- by *Lydia Mattice Brandt*

The South Carolina Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) hired Ruckstull to design a monument to the state's Revolutionary War dead in the same decade, capitalizing further on the axis between Hampton's statue and his tomb. The women located their Doric column of pink granite on the same invisible line, directly in between Hampton's statue and Trinity's façade, on Senate Street. They claimed the leaders of the state's revolutionary cause – Thomas Sumter, Francis Marion, and Andrew Pickens – as the direct predecessors of Confederate leaders like Wade Hampton who had defended their plantations against the U.S. Army more than a century after the Revolution.

Along with the replica of the Liberty Bell and monuments to James Marion Sims and the Women of the Confederacy, the state moved the Hampton sculpture in 1969 as part of the redesign and expansion of the grounds. The invisible ties that bound Hampton's body with his sculptural representation—as well as the DAR's memory of its Revolutionary heroes—disappeared. While some might know of the original connection between the Hampton statue, Trinity, and the State House, the bronze horse and rider is now more explicitly connected to the state office building that bears his name. The DAR's Partisan Generals Monument still stands at its original site across from Trinity.

Such stories of the intentions of monuments are important to understanding what is remembered and why in public spaces. Those who raised money and support for the Byrnes and Hampton monuments expected their larger-than-life statues to inspire later generations in ways that gravestones could not. Those who erected the Byrnes monument chose to emphasize the less than two years he spent on the supreme court out of his decades of public service. The DAR women decided to marry their reverence for the Revolutionary War with the Civil War to amplify memories of those long dead. While gravestones might impart essential historical facts of a person's birth, death, or kinship, monuments tell us much more about the people left behind to remember them.

Lydia Mattice Brandt, PhD is associate professor of art history at the University of South Carolina. She is the author of a forthcoming guidebook on the South Carolina state house grounds, to be published by the University of South Carolina Press in spring 2021. Her research also informed Historic Columbia's new online tour of the grounds: <https://www.historiccolumbia.org/online-tours/state-house-monuments-tour>.



YOUTH MINISTRY, REIMAGINED

- by Addie Tapp

Before the coronavirus, the most common problem we encountered was the dreaded sentence “I’d love to be there, but I’m busy then.” Between all-weekend baseball tournaments, SAT prep, choir practice, and unending homework, it seemed impossible to find the time to gather together. And while the global pandemic has been difficult in every aspect of the word, it has given us all the chance to pause and consider what truly makes us come alive. With that in mind, we have been reimagining Youth Ministry at Trinity. This fall, and in the years to come, we are committed to offering programs that give our youth the opportunity to grow in their faith truly and belong to this community.



What we’ve learned from these past few months is that under all the big events and goofy games, the heart of Youth Ministry at Trinity is small groups. Youth Ministry reimagined puts our existing small groups at the forefront of our programming. Functionally, this shift means that we are paring down the number of weekly offerings for our youth to Bible studies and Sunday morning formation. This puts the youth, and the adults that shepherd them, in the drivers seat of Youth Ministry at Trinity. Instead of getting excited about an event only to realize it’s at the same time as basketball tryouts, now each small group will have the ability to plan events that work for them, and help their ministry thrive. We can’t wait to see what creative and new ideas they are going to come up with.

As we all rebuild our lives and choose what commitments we would like to put back into our calendars, you are invited to be part of a small group. Our four Bible studies are divided by age and gender, and each have personalities of their own. Youth are, of course, welcome to join at any time, but we are also looking for a few more adults to help shepherd our fantastic small groups. If you feel called to walk alongside young people as they discover what it means to be a mature disciple of



Top Right: Meeting at Panera Bread, pre-pandemic. **Bottom Left:** Small groups have started meeting again for Bible Studies. They meet outdoors in parks and other outside venues. **Bottom Middle:** Easter looked a little different this year, but our Youth still found a way to make it their own. **Bottom Right:** A Bible Study Zoom meeting.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- by Bibs Babson

Look! Nature is overflowing with the grandeur of God!

When March 13 arrived and the Cathedral closed to in-person worship, many of us found ourselves pressing pause on several programs, or at least considering whether we should move forward with many of our programs. Many formation leaders throughout the diocese began to meet on a regular basis. We began to brainstorm on formation opportunities and, of course, Vacation Bible School was a very popular topic of conversation as summer was approaching.

Trinity's VBS curriculum and dates were decided upon way back in December based on Philippians 3:14: "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me in heavenward in Christ Jesus." This curriculum was chosen to correlate with the start of the Olympics the following week. So, my Pinterest board was full of ideas, I had begun gathering supplies, I had several volunteers lined-up, but COVID-19 had other plans (or so it thought). As July crept closer, the story of Job kept creeping into my mind, and I decided to adopt Job 42:2 as my mantra for preparing for VBS this year: "I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

I was bound and determined to offer some form of VBS and so the Holy Spirit truly went to work. I began looking at various curriculums and nothing seemed to be working. Canon Dorian and I often have "doorway God moments" and during one I told him that I wanted VBS this year to be interactive and outside as much as possible. He suggested John Muir and from there the Lord's purpose was fulfilled.

Each day I would sit for hours discovering scripture and a myriad of games, crafts and snacks and activities that could be easily woven into John Muir's quotes. Supplies were literally stuffed into bags in order for families to experience these lessons in many different ways. Some families joined by Zoom, some led their own lessons and some still are saving these lessons for when grandchildren can finally come for a visit.

Through water, seeds, soil, rocks and summer storms, this year's VBS has grown our faith through the grandeur of God's creation. The Lord's plans will never be thwarted; the delivery may look a little different but His purpose in the end is always a blessing.

From top: VBS bags stuffed and ready for pick up; Children participating in VBS had many different activities that coordinated with the lesson that day, from painting to squirt gun racing.



FROM THE KITCHEN



Trinity's Kitchen Coordinator, Andrella Brunson, has spent her time during the Cathedral's closure making casseroles for the people of our parish. The casseroles were brought not only to those in need of a meal, but to those who could use a break from cooking, or even a little pick-me-up. The notes of gratitude for the meals provided by Andrella and all the kitchen volunteers have been pouring in.

Sometimes, just knowing someone is thinking of you by bringing you a meal is the best feeling in the world--and that has turned out to be the case now more than ever, in the midst of a pandemic.

Dear Andrella

I do appreciate your kindness and generosity in sending the tasty looking dinner to me. I am to enjoy them next week as my evening caregiver will be out of town. What a marvelous mission to share meals with the shut-in and elderly.

Thank you and those who assist you. I was so sorry I was unable to see Neil when she brought the dishes - at a long distance call and unable to break away.

Andrella
Thank you so very much for the fabulous Chicken Tiramisu Casserole from the Kitchen Caring Committee. It was delicious and very thoughtful of you to remember about my food allergies.

Maybe someday I can volunteer to help you in the kitchen so you in turn can learn to cook? I can

Thank you for the wonderful casseroles that you have made and for allowing me to enjoy them -
Sincerely,



FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has been hard at work, and even a pandemic couldn't prevent them from doing their best to find Trinity's next Dean. The group quickly pivoted from in-person meetings to meeting virtually via Zoom without losing any steam. Most recently, the Committee has started to hold interviews over Zoom, and the group's chair, John Moorman, is pleased about the way the virtual interviews have gone. The script they are using to question candidates has been polished, and the Committee feels they have a good working list of candidates. Stay tuned to our website (trinitysc.org/dean-search) where you can find the most recent updates, or submit a candidate for our next Dean of Trinity Cathedral.



John Moorman, Chair



Gus Chapman



Emma Dean



Susie Dibble



Norah Gimbball



Shiva Hodges



Phil Johnston



Ami Leventis



Ryan Newton



Doak Wolfe



Beth Yon



**Wade Stinnette
Senior Warden**



**Llewellyn Shealy
Junior Warden**



**David Wolff
Immediate Past Sr. Warden**

PARISH OUTREACH:

W.A. Perry

- by Bibs Babson

As reality began to sink in that the traditional “first day of school” this year was not going to be so traditional, the team of volunteers at Trinity who have faithfully served at W.A. Perry Middle School for many years came together to determine how their efforts could best serve the students, families, faculty, staff and administrators of W.A. Perry. The traditional supply drive was organized; however, the requested supplies were anything but the typical needs seen in years past. Hand sanitizer, face masks, and bottled water were the main requests this year, replacing spiral bound notebooks and boxes of Kleenex that typically comprise the supplies list.



And what an outpouring of donations there were! A huge thank you to all who made contributions to this effort. Discussions began quickly after the donations started coming in, and the focus started to change to sustainability of these supplies for the year. How can we make sure the students have what they need not just for the start of school, but for the entire year?

The prospect of growing the “Backpack Program” beyond the beginning of the school year began to surface. How can more nutritional snacks and other food items be provided for the time between LEAP days? Educational support needs were also discussed. How can those without WiFi be provided with a Hot Spot and the needed IT support? How can students be provided with tutors and accountability buddies to support them through this season of virtual educational? These questions and more are still being discussed, and the wonderful W.A. Perry volunteers hope to have plans in place soon. By the time this article hits your mailbox, there will be specific ways you can participate in this effort. Stay tuned to their page on Trinity’s site, trinitysc/perrysupplies, to stay up to date with all of the exciting plans and details.

Above Left: Several trips had to be made by volunteers to drop off the supplies collected at W.A. Perry.

Above Right: Betty Gregory and Patti Trotter host a supply drop-off drive through for parishioners to drop-off their donations while the Cathedral is closed.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Homeless No More

As the families at Homeless No More ventured back into the virtual classroom, Lila Anna Sauls, President and CEO of Homeless No More, and her staff diligently worked to provide safe areas for effective learning environments. The newly updated pavilion is now complete with WiFi, fans and tables. The resource room is also ready for virtual learning with all precautions of social distancing, masks, and other protective gear in place. The first two weeks of school were deemed “grace” weeks with the theme being “we are all trying to figure this out.” Lila Anna knew she would need help in many areas of virtual education, but she also had the wisdom to know that again, “we need to figure it out.”



The answers to where, what, and when for the exact needs of these children and families would take time to determine. For the first two weeks of school, Lila Anna asked for several volunteers to help with meals, but primarily to assist in making sure all of the children were able to log in and were actively participating in instruction with their individual teachers throughout the day. By the end of the two weeks, the hope is to have a better grasp of what’s needed as far as staff (and future volunteers) in order to then develop and implement a more permanent plan! Be sure to visit the Homeless No More website homelessnomore.org to stay up-to-date and to view all the volunteer opportunities available for the school year.

Harvest Hope

- by Jessica Umbach

The pandemic has been a difficult time for most people, but that is especially the case for the food insecure in our community. You may have seen pictures circulating on social media showing the line of cars stretched for almost a mile down Bluff Road, with drivers waiting to be able to pick up food for themselves and their families. Trinity has been a longtime supporter of this important cause, and we are very proud to say that continued to be the case during the pandemic.



So far in 2020, Trinity has donated 563 pounds to Harvest Hope! That is a pretty impressive number when you consider that the Cathedral has been closed for drop-offs since March—so instead of bringing canned goods along to a worship service for drop-off, people had to drive to parishioners houses that served as drop-off locations (listed at trinitysc.org/harvesthope) in order to make their contribution. This is just one way that Trinity has stepped up and supported the community in a time of need.

We are so grateful for your generosity, but the need in our community continues. Please remember Harvest Hope the next time you’re shopping and consider purchasing a couple items to donate. Peanut butter continues to be a need, but you can always check their list (found at harvesthope.org) to see what current needs are, or to make a monetary donation instead. Thank you, Trinity, for your overwhelming generosity for this important cause.

*Top (Homeless No More): Children are ready to learn at the newly outfitted pavilion.
Below (Harvest Hope): A very good dog makes a contribution to Harvest Hope.*

BAZAAR UPDATE:

a different look for a time-honored event

TAKING PLACE VIRTUALLY NOVEMBER 7 - 14, 2020

In recognition of the fact that large gatherings will likely still be impossible this fall, the Daughters of the Holy Cross have made the difficult decision to stage the 2020 Bazaar as “A Week of Giving” during November 7 through 14, with an online component and auction.

Cancelling this 72-year tradition was not an option as nonprofits in our community especially need help and support, this year more than ever. Given this decision, the remaining 2020 drop-off dates have been cancelled.

Some of your generous donations may become auction items, some—especially clothing—may be donated to partner organizations to assist the homeless and others

in need, and some items that have already been donated by our parish may be stored for next year.

Everyone’s support has been amazing, and it is our hope that you will embrace

this year’s event financially to assist the three selected Bazaar Grant Recipients, to be announced soon.

Details are still in the works, so watch for additional information to come. Updates will be announced in the Tidings and posted on the Bazaar page on the website: trinitysc.org/bazaar.



If you have any questions, please contact the Bazaar Co-Chairs: Robin Eynon, Gretchen Hope, Joy Snyder, and Kristin Lowe (visit trinitysc.org/bazaar for their contact info).

Above: Your 2020 Bazaar Co-Chairs (Left to Right) Gretchen Snyder Hope, Robin Eynon, Joy Snyder, and Kristin Eynon Lowe.

INSIDE LOOK: PLANNING THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

pivoting our programs during a pandemic

- by Jessica Umbach

Adapting our “old ways” to help us make sense of the new world we are living in has almost become second nature by now, five months into the pandemic. A perfect example of the need to adapt arose during our planning for the annual Blessing of the Backpacks event. In previous years, the Blessing of the Backpacks took place at the end of August, and was held during one of the Cathedral services on Sunday. Children would bring their backpacks to the front of the church and receive a special blessing for the school year. With school continuing to look much different than before due to the ongoing pandemic, we knew we had to pivot to a new plan. Packing kids into a Cathedral just was not going to be possible this year. At the same time, we knew the children and families still need a blessing to start off the school year—perhaps more so for this school year than ever before—so our Children’s Ministries Director Bibs Babson, Canon Dorian Del Priore, and I sat down and strategized.

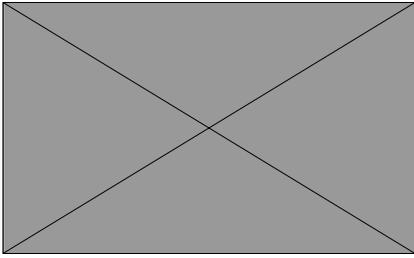


In our meeting, we decided that instead of using the Cathedral, the service will be held on the Cathedral lawn. It will be a short, 30-minute Compline service held at 6 pm in hopes of it being a little bit cooler outside at that time of day, and in recognition of the fact that attendees will primarily be children who tend to get the wiggles during longer services. Brightly colored, plastic picnic blankets will be spread out on the lawn, serving as each family’s assigned area to occupy, that will also be socially distanced from other families on the lawn. For families who may be worried about attending in-person, we decided to hold a “Blessing Drive Through” directly before the event at 5 pm so they will still be able to receive a blessing.

We also realized while working through all the logistics that backpacks themselves may not be in use during the start of this particular school year for some children, since they’ll be starting off virtually. In that case, we decided that for this year, we will encourage families to bring any school item they would like to have blessed: a laptop, an iPad, even a nap mat! The item doesn’t matter so much; the hope is that we can all gather in a safe way and receive a blessing as we navigate these strange times in our children’s education.

Whether your child is starting in-person or virtually, a lot of parents and students alike are feeling the anxiety about school starting. It is our hope while planning this event that the service will help provide a sense of peace before facing the year ahead. May the Lord be with all the families and children as they head “back to school” this year—wherever the school may be.

Above: The bag tag design for the Blessing of the Backpacks this year, designed by Charlotte Martin.



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