

Trinity Episcopal Church

The Messenger



FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

I read recently that, in terms of shared experience, the pandemic crisis is unmatched in history. We don't know how what we are experiencing will play out in the long run, but we know the world will be different. As with any negative situation, sooner or later there is a human tendency to ask or at least think: "Why me, why now?" Perhaps, if you consider the pandemic in theological terms, you might ask, "why is this happening, and what does God want me to do?" We didn't cause this horrible crisis, but how are we to engage it as people of God? One thing is sure, we will have to deal with the world as it is going forward. We have no choice about that.

When I look for examples of people in scripture who seemed to be put in situations that they didn't choose, Mary, Jesus' mother comes to mind. In the first chapter of Luke the angel Gabriel comes to her. Mary was just a girl, in her early teens, who had little experience with the world or angels. Gabriel comes to Mary to tell her that God has been gracious to her, that she would bear a son, and that he would be the king of Israel forever. The Angel did not ask her how that sounded to her, or whether she would like to try out for the role. He told her, "The Lord is with you." "How can this be?" Mary asked, and that is all she asked. There are other questions she could have asked. Will Joseph stick around? Will my friends and family stick by me, or will I be stoned for sleeping around? Will the pregnancy go all right? Will I survive his birth? What about me?

According to Luke, Mary didn't ask these questions. She listened as the angel told her how it was going to happen. It seems she still had a choice, whether to take hold of the unknown life the angel held out to her, or whether to try to defend herself against it, however she could. In terms of world history, Mary was in a unique position. She chose to become the "Theotokos," the "God-bearer," who consented to carry, give birth to, nurse, and raise the son of God. Only one person in history was ever called to do that. Can her story inform ours? There is much talk these days of how the world will be different going forward. Our plans have been interrupted by the pandemic. The surprise of this sudden and tragic illness and its effect on human life and the world economy are profound. We have become aware that we don't know exactly what will happen. Perhaps, like Mary, our choices on how we will live are binary: Yes and no. We can say yes, I will live this life that is being held out to me, or no, I will not.

If we say No, we can refuse to accept the changes that have come upon us. We can put all of our energy into ignoring it, and insist, in spite of all the evidence, it is not happening to us. We can become angry, defending ourselves against the unknown, and spending all of our time trying to get our lives back the way they used to be.

Or, we can say Yes. We can decide to take part in a set of conditions we did not choose, doing things we would rather not do, and don't completely understand.

We will have to go forward with no script and no guarantees. We can agree to smuggle God into the world in us, sort of like Mary. This doesn't mean we won't be afraid, it just means we won't let fear stop us. We can say, "Lord, here I am, let it be with me according to your word." In saying this, we become one of Mary's people, who are willing to bear God into the world. We can do this in our time and culture. As we do this, we hear the angel speak: "Greetings favored ones! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid. For nothing will be impossible with God."

Blessings, Gene+

Lumberton, North Carolina May 2020 Edition
SPRING / SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY [Online](#), WEDNESDAY [Online](#)



Senior Warden Report

Vestry Meeting of the Church for April, 2020

Treasurer's Report indicated that current collections and pledges were down by one-third the usual receipts. It was recommended to either mail those to the church or to drop offering envelopes in the locked church mailbox, located at the back door entrance on Stephens Lane.

The Senior Warden, Joe Burke, reported that church service videos for Lent and Holy Week had been well received by parishioners and friends of Trinity. He expressed appreciation to Mark Andersen, Fr. Gene, and

Lynn Andersen for their collaboration on this effort while we are unable to hold services due to COVID – 19 restrictions for the state of North Carolina. **The Disaster Relief Program** for COVID-19 or the Payroll Protection Plan was discussed. It will loan and forgive 2 ½ months of payroll expenses if a church of 500 members or less keeps all current employees on the payroll. This program would mean about \$18,000 for Trinity. Unanimous approval was given to pursue this loan. **The Junior Warden's** report, by Holt Moore, stated that The Steele Roofing Company of Wilmington, N. C. did come to make some repairs to the roof. Blackburn Roofing is to examine the sanctuary roof on Wednesday in order to provide a quote for repairs. Baker Roofing will also be preparing a quote for repairs. All quotes should be received by the next Vestry meeting. The sink faucet in the Nursery has been repaired. **The Worship Committee**, Nikki Hansen and Meaghan McDonald, volunteered to be in charge of the Flowering of the Cross on Easter Sunday. A photo of the resulting cross is above. **Outreach and Evangelism**, Floyd Locklear, mentioned the Evangelism course Fr. Gene plans to provide at a later date based on the book, *Invite, Welcome, Connect*. The Outreach Committee will work on ideas from this course to be used for outreach/evangelism at Trinity. **Pastoral Care**, Candy Borbet and Lynn Noble, have set up phone tree lists for Vestry members to stay in contact with parishioners. Parishioners are very appreciative of the personal phone calls which keep us in touch with each other during this difficult time of the Corona Virus pandemic. **Gatherings for worship and fellowship** will not be held during this time of the corona virus pandemic. **Dodie Taylor and Sharon Leary**, who are new members, will begin serving on the Board of Repeat Performance Thrift Shop sponsored by Trinity. They will begin serving in May.

Joe Burke, Notes by Clyde McKee, edited by Lynn Andersen

Notes from Pastoral Care Committee:

We hope everyone is doing well, if you need anything, or have any concerns, please let us know. Contact us at trinityepiscopal1202@gmail.com, or call Lynn Andersen at 425-922-3442, and he will relay any messages. Thank you , Lynn Noble & Candy Borbet





Military



Zeb Beasley / Cherry Beasley (*Mother*)

Scott Cherichella / Carol McDonald (*Friend*) Terri Biggerstaff / Chris Biggerstaff (*Wife*)

Christian Cummings / Stan Knick (*Friend*) ♦ Kevin Dyda / Stan Knick (*Friend*)

Antwone Gainey / Shane Donovan (*Friend*) ♦ Brian Gibson / Cherry Beasley (*Son-in-law*)

John Gibson / Rosemary Gibson (*Grandmother*) ♦ Jefferson Griffin / Annette Burk (*Nephew*)

Dakota Maynor / Shane Donovan (*Friend*) ♦ Antonio Massol / Nikki Hansen (*Friend*)

Helena Massol / Nikki Hansen (*Friend*) ♦ Charlie Noble / Lynn Noble (*Son*)

Kelvin Oxendine / Stan Knick (*Friend*) ♦ Chris Simmons / Shane Donovan (*Friend*)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE THRIFT SHOP

Repeat Performance Thrift Shop continues to be closed during this time of COVID-19. It will be a happy day when those of us who work, volunteer, and donate there can get back to working together to support Lumberton Christian Care Center. We welcome two new members to the Board: Sharon Leary and Dodie Taylor. Both of these ladies are faithful volunteers at the shop. They replace Betty Graham and Anne Todd, who have completed three year terms on the Board. When we are able to resume a regular schedule, please come by and visit Trinity's Thrift Shop.

Shop hours are 10am-4pm Wednesday through Friday
and 10am-2pm on Saturdays.

May Office Hours

Phone:

425-922-3442

Monday-Thursday

(working from home,
or as needed)

Please send all
e-mails to

trinityepiscopal1202@gmail.com

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5/1 CLAIRE WINER
- 5/5 BARBARA COLLINS
RICHMOND PAGE
- 5/8 STAN KNICK
GRANT SESSOMS
- 5/9 JAMIE ODOM
- 5/13 ELEANOR EBERT
TED CROW, JR.
- 5/14 ALI COOK
- 5/16 SARA MCDONALD- HARDIN
- 5/20 BOB DONOVAN
- 5/21 JOE BURKE
- 5/23 MARTHA AVERITT
- 5/29 BEN BURKE
- 5/30 LACEY "BUTCH" GANE
- 5/31 CASEY CRUISE
ALEX WATSON

MAY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 4th Sunday of Easter	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day 5th Sunday of Easter	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 6th Sunday of Easter	18	19	20	21 Ascension Day	22	23
24 7th Sunday of Easter	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29 John F. Kennedy Birthday	30
31 Day of Pentecost						

Musically Speaking

I wanted to take a moment to let each of you know how very much I appreciate all of the nice notes, emails, and calls we've received regarding the video services during this time we cannot meet together in person. It has been a prayerful process putting together the services and finding the music befitting Fr. Gene's wonderful insights each week. It continues to be a blessing to work with Fr. Gene and Lynn, two superheroes, during this time.

I've been spending a lot of this "home" time writing new anthems for our choir, new pieces for organ, and new solos for us to use in the upcoming time when we will all be together again.

I'm thankful that the powers that be are taking careful time to evaluate the best and safest way for us to move forward. And, as one of the many who have pre-existing health problems, I'm most appreciative that our medical interests are being considered as we move forward.

I miss our choir, our handbells, and each one of you, my church family.

Love, Mark





Our prayer List is divided into two parts. Those we pray for during Prayers of the People are placed on the list for immediate need and stay on for four weeks. Those with long term needs are placed on the Daily Prayer Intercessions. Each person listed is followed by the relationship they have to the church. Please call the office to update.

DAILY INTERCESSIONS

Don Billington (*Stan Knick Father*) ♦ **Ann Chaney** (*parishioner*)
Cody Cruise (*parishioner*) ♦ **Kerry DeVos**
Eleanor Ebert (*Parishioner*) ♦ **Jim Ebert** (*parishioner*)
Nancy Evans (*Donna Gage cousin*) ♦ **Elizabeth Hall** (*Wayman friend*)
Jim Herring (*parishioner*) ♦ **Jean Hornyak** (*Rosemary Gibson sister*)
Stan Knick (*parishioner*) ♦ **Melba McCorkle** (*Jan Gane mother*)
Leggette Odom (*parishioner*) ♦ **Ruth Saunders**
Ann Shiber (*Milissa Cox*) ♦ **Harold Slagle** (*parishioner*)
Milly Swayne (*parishioner*) ♦ **Kaleighann Thompson** (*Michael Brown*)

SUNDAY INTERCESSIONS

Jo Reynolds (*parishioner*) ♦ **Chuck Forte** (*Taylor friend*)
Dave Skurlock (*Taylor friend*) ♦ **Becky Hunter** (*Marjory Hall*)

Helpful Links

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/care-for-someone.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/sick-with-2019-nCoV-fact-sheet.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/10Things.pdf>

Rector: Fr. Gene Wayman, Choirmaster and Organist: Dr. Mark Andersen

Church Administrator: Lynn Andersen, Treasurer: Mike Brown,

Custodian: Tammy Emanuel

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Web page: www.trinitylumberton.net

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