



# THE TRINITARIAN

Issue 41 | October 2022 | [www.trinityfuquay.org](http://www.trinityfuquay.org)

## Rector's Ramblin's: Which God?

It's really amazing how two people can look at the same thing and see it entirely differently. Take this cartoon. When I first saw it, I thought, "What a great way to show how God creeps up on us like a thief in the night and surprises us with his grace and joy!"

Yet, when I told a friend about it, he took one look and said, "Bob, you're crazy; look at that picture, look at his face, his eyes. That God is gonna' get ya."



I guess it depends on our perspective, on how we envision or think about God. Despite assurances of grace and forgiveness, it's often hard to think of God as anything but a vengeful judge, waiting to pronounce the sentence – to separate the sheep from the goats, and there's no doubt where we'll be.

But, is God going to "get" us with lightning bolts, wrath and the consuming fires of Hell? Again, it's sometimes hard to believe otherwise in the midst of the tragedy, fear, pain, and sorrow that often fill our lives. And even when things are going great and "God is smiling on us," how many of us keep a wary eye out, waiting for the other shoe to fall?

Could it be that God is waiting to surprise us, not with the other shoe, but with better things than we can imagine? Could it be that God is quivering with anticipation at the thought of giving us gifts, love and peace beyond our comprehension? Could it be that we just don't ask for enough or believe that we could ever receive such gifts. Or, is it that we are so bound up in our own perception of a God who gives us only what we deserve – goats that we are – that we can't even see the gifts offered to us, much less accept them and be surprised by Joy? I guess it depends on our perspective.



Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect for Proper 22, *BCP*, p. 243



**"If you need the threat of hell to be a good person,  
then you're just a bad person on a leash."**

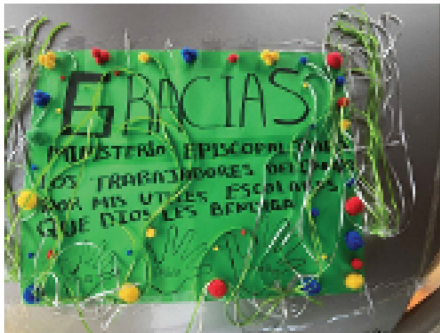


# Outreach Focus: Episcopal Farm Workers Ministry

The Mission of The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry is to respond to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of farmworkers and actively supports opportunities for them to become self-directive. Their mission is in line with the Episcopal Church's baptismal covenant, as well as with the specific Mission of Trinity Church. The Ministry was founded and is supported by the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Eastern North Carolina, and the Diocese of North Carolina. They are located practically in our backyard, which makes volunteering with them a convenient and worthwhile endeavor.



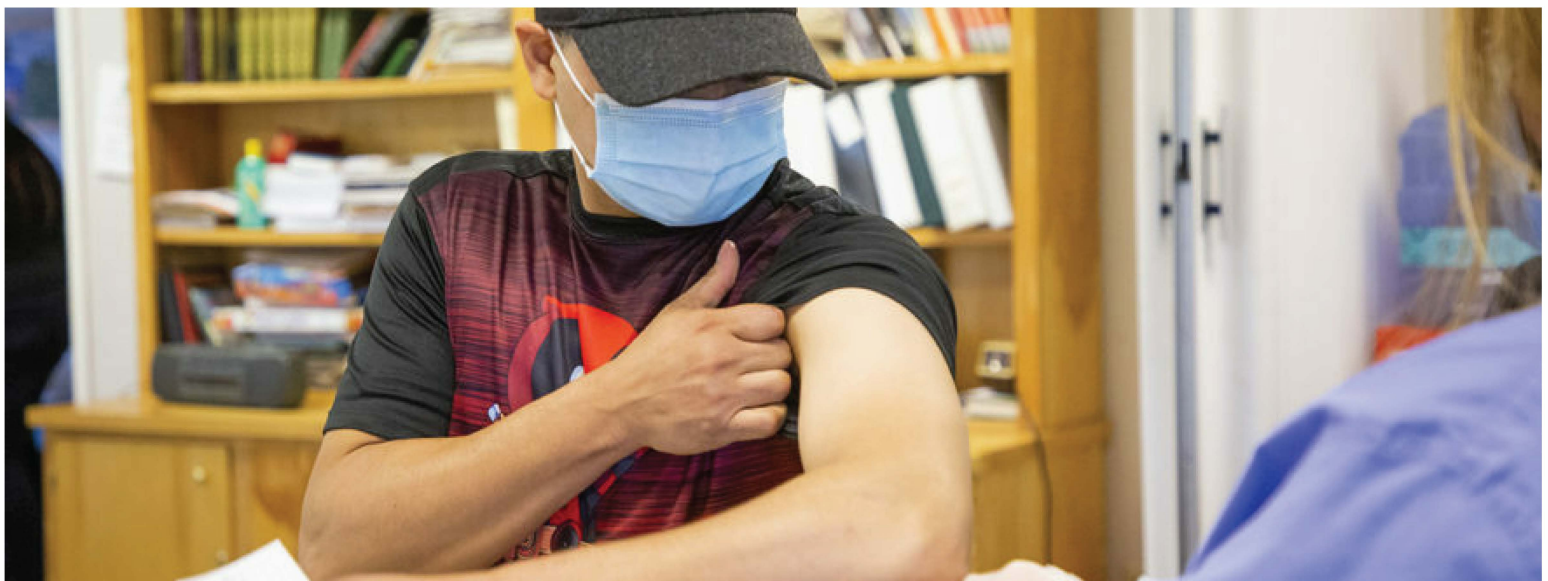
For several years, we have supported the EFW Ministry financially. In addition, a few of our members serve in paid and volunteer positions at the Ministry. A very dedicated member of our congregation, Shirley Lamont, has been a continual presence at the Ministry as both an employee and a volunteer for several years. She is very passionate about the Ministry and will happily share with you her experiences there.



In recent weeks, we have had several folks from Trinity volunteering on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the Month to help distribute food. Those who have spent their time volunteering can attest to how rewarding it is to share time and a meal with this team of dedicated folks. The Ministry serves people who are maligned by many who believe that migrant farmworkers are inferior don't deserve better for themselves than to simply get by. When we serve the farmworkers and their families, who literally put food on our tables, we show them that we see them as equal to ourselves and deserving of a better life.

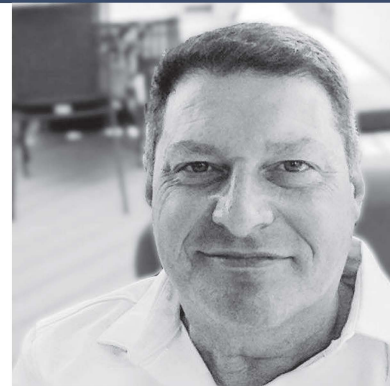
What could be more Christian than that?

--Donna Wooten



# Look at What We're Doing With EFWM

On Sunday, September 25th, Father Bob's sermon explored our relationship with the poor and downtrodden. "We can't help everyone" we heard. But we certainly can help some. That spirit and ministry is right in our back yard with agricultural workers. Farmworkers are an integral part of the NC economy, playing a significant role in providing an ample supply of low-cost food year-round for our households. Yet, despite their essential role in feeding our State, farmworkers are often mistreated and abused by employers and face a multitude of barriers that keep them from ensuring even the most basic living standards.



Farmworkers are routinely subjected to substandard housing, pesticide exposure, dangerous and exhausting work, inadequate wages, frequent housing and labor violations, intimidation, job loss if violations are reported, language and educational barriers, lack of transportation, and extreme isolation. The poverty and injustice that farmworkers endure are not merely the problems of an invisible group of transient unknowns, but of individuals with names and identities.

The Episcopal Farmworkers Ministry seeks to make conditions and lives better for these children of God. As noted in Donna Wooten's article, Trinity has continually supported this important ministry both with financial and sweat equity contributions.

Food distribution takes place every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, and we would like to recruit more Trinity volunteers for this rewarding ministry. Between 250-300 families receive boxes of food at each event.

You don't have to commit to being there every two weeks. But if you can volunteer, even if occasionally, it builds a bigger Trinity team for this important ministry.

--Martin Steel



NEXT DATE:

October 8 @ 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Location:

2989 Easy St

Dunn, NC 28334

Contact Donna Wooten if you can volunteer, even for one session!

[donna.wooten01@gmail.com](mailto:donna.wooten01@gmail.com)

# Lift a Sweet Aroma to the Lord

Flowers on the altar not only look beautiful, their aromas also add to the full sensory experience of worship.

The sign up sheet for altar flowers is posted on the bulletin board downstairs. Please sign up for the date you want, then send Trinity a check for \$25.00, or just drop one in the collection plate, and remember to take your flowers home after the 10am service. Please be sure to indicate "for flowers" on your payment.

I've listed the dates until next Lent, so feel free to plan ahead! If you have any questions, please contact Annette Stowe at 919-346-1995 or [annette@annetestowe.com](mailto:annette@annetestowe.com)



## You Need the Altar Guild. The AG needs YOU!

Everyone enjoys the beauty of Trinity's services. Everything is ready and in its place as the organ begins to play. None of this happens magically.

The Altar Guild keeps the sanctuary in a state of readiness for worship.

The activities are not hard or time consuming. The reward is immeasurable, and the camaraderie can't be beat. There are many different ways to participate, and some can be done in the comfort of your home.

Experienced Altar Guild members are ready to mentor one and all.

Please consider joining this vital ministry for our church. Contact **Edna Gaston** ([ladybug.gang@gmail.com](mailto:ladybug.gang@gmail.com) or **336-592-1157**) for more information or to volunteer. Can we count on YOU?





# October Birthdays



10/7 Jeff McGhee  
10/8 Perry Cizek  
10/15 Catherine Williams  
10/24 Helen Newell  
10/25 Julia Wingler  
10/28 Charles Fischer  
10/28 Martin Steel  
10/29 Joyce Weir  
10/30 Bob Williams  
10/31 Diane Cicione

**If we missed your birthday or have the wrong date, please email  
[srwarden@trinityfuquay.org](mailto:srwarden@trinityfuquay.org)**

## Let Us Pray For You.

Prayer is an integral part of our daily life. Your contemplations, concerns, thanksgivings, and celebrations can be daily prayers.

We know and trust that God hears all prayers: those that are spoken and those that are kept close to the heart.

Email your prayer request to:  
[prayerrequest@trinityfuquay.org](mailto:prayerrequest@trinityfuquay.org)

The Daughters of the King will lift up your requests in prayer for 30 days unless otherwise specified. All requests are confidential.

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*



# Sonnet Sequence with Todd Truffin

"St. Saint" by Lisa Russ Spaar

Even my dreams won't reveal you,  
though the hand wants its scepter.

Instead, the sublimity of backdrop,  
All Hallows, solemn close of paschal drawers,  
wounded stare, the all-out decking of box stores.  
Fa la la, la la. O beloved departed, la-la, la-la,  
obligate me, after work, a long day in a body,  
passing beneath blooded lintels, maples, red oaks--  
interpreters, I might be so bold to call them--  
to sing in sacrifice, from century to century.

Your tale is not mine, of course,  
to tell. But the world is ingot-cast

cinders now & this hour already a beyond.  
What weary head doesn't crave its nimbus?



Lisa Russ Spaar was one of the first visiting professors to address the MFA program while I was studying. I had never heard of her work, but I quickly appreciated her way of making the every-day magical. She was one of the first writers I saw "writing what you know" and admitting that what she knew was American suburbia. I won't pretend that "St. Saint" is a regular sonnet or that it is a clear window to spiritual guidance. I will note that it is a "sonnet-like" thing: 14 lines, a turn near the end, and a self-contained logic. I will also note that amidst the box stores and cinders, this poem points me, at least, to the refrain of that favorite All Hallows' hymn: "for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too."

While the hymn is jaunty and hopeful, Spaar's poem catching our would be saint "after work, a long day in a body." The tired soul struggles to make sense of the box stores filled with Christmas wares before Halloween is over. What helps our exhausted saint? The "maples, red oaks" whose leaves turn red as the "blooded lintels." These natural singers bring together Christmas and Easter, Halloween and Passover as well as the faith from "century to century.

The speaker sighs, and, in a mystery, "craves" the halo of the saints of God, even if she is too weary to see past the cinder parking lot and the crass commercialism.

# Fall Brings Changes to the DOK

This fall is the fifth anniversary of the Ruth and Esther Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King. The crucial first four years benefited from the thoughtful and dedicated leadership of President Carlene Harris. We are thankful for her service.

Past Vice President Kate Reichert assumes the President position for the next three years. Daphne Jackson will be the Vice President, and Carlene Harris will be the Secretary/Treasurer.

The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is open to all women in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. Daughters pledge themselves to a life-long program of prayer, service, and evangelism dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and to the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish or mission. The DOK chapter at Trinity Episcopal Church was named in honor of Ruth and Esther, two courageous and faithful women of the Old Testament and the only two women named as books in the Bible.

October offers many opportunities for fellowship and service. In addition to the ongoing Prayer Ministry [prayerrequest@trinityfuquay.org](mailto:prayerrequest@trinityfuquay.org) the following activities are scheduled:

Oct. 1 – The DOK will sponsor a tent at the annual Trinity Blessing of the Animals. We will receive prayer requests, pray with anyone requesting prayer, and provide information about the Order of the DOK.

Oct. 15 – The Ruth and Ester Chapter will attend the NC DOK Fall Assembly. The St. Monica Chapter of Emmanuel Episcopal Church is hosting in Southern Pines.

Oct. 29 – The Ruth and Ester Chapter fall meeting. Highlights of the meeting will be guest speaker Father Bob Henderson and guest meditative-soloist Catherine Carver.

For more information on the Chapter, contact Kate Reichert at [reichert.brock@gmail.com](mailto:reichert.brock@gmail.com) or Daphne Jackson at [daphnejackson307@aol.com](mailto:daphnejackson307@aol.com)





# Joyful Noisemakers Needed!

Trinity is getting ready to re-start the Choir.

Charlotte and Adele are set to direct the efforts of our joyful noisemakers.

Who are these producers of a holy din?

YOU are, of course.

Interested makers of joyful noise should contact Charlotte Henderson at [henderson.charlotte@gmail.com](mailto:henderson.charlotte@gmail.com)

Schedule, details, etc. will follow shortly, so get your name in the queue ASAP.



## Monthly Breakfast

On the first Saturday of every month, men and women of Trinity gather at the IHOP in Holly Springs for breakfast and fellowship.

Join the throng at 8:30am.



# The Trinitarian needs YOU.

Trinity will grow stronger if we all see how various parts of our community promote the Jesus Movement.

**You don't have to be an official leader of a Church Ministry to submit news to *The Trinitarian*.** If a member of your family is serving God outside the church walls, we want to hear about it. If you hear about an opportunity to minister to the community, we want to hear about it. **We need to hear about God working in your lives!**

Don't worry if you think your writing skills aren't ready for primetime, the editor will be happy to massage the knots out any tense prose.

Please email all news and articles to **Todd Truffin** at **tctruffin@gmail.com** (Pictures make the newsletter more interesting!) **The deadline for inclusion is the 20th of each month.**

## Sunday Worship

Meeting in person at 8:00am and 10:15am every Sunday.

The 10:15am Service is LIVEstreamed on our **YouTube** channel **TECFV**.

You can also view past services there whenever you would like.

