



THE TRINITARIAN

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We're Watching the Numbers

We continue to monitor the statistics on COVID-19 with a particular focus on Positive Tests as a percentage of Total Tests. This figure has been slowly in decline since the peak infection rate caused by the Delta variant. The target is to see a number of consecutive days of 5% or less. Assuming that is a possibility in the coming weeks, we will be able to consider re-opening the church for worship once again.



Text the word **MyTrinity** to 866-603-3621 from your cell phone to be the first to know when we return to in-person services!

More good news in the fight against COVID-19 may be forthcoming if they FDA approve Merck's drug *molnupiravir*, a twice-daily tablet that reduces hospitalization and death amongst those infected with coronavirus. While this is not a substitute for the vaccine, it is an option for those who become infected as the 5-day course accelerates recovery, therefore helping to reduce the spread of the virus.



What's Going on Wednesday?

The Wednesday Noon Bible Class has moved on to a study of a selection of the books left out of the canon of the Bible beginning with a look at *Kabala* and moving into a study of the first three chapters of the *Gospel of John*, a favorite text of the Cathars and Gnostics. The second half of the class will continue as a theological review of the next Sunday's Gospel. Call Deacon Bob if you have any questions at 919-285-2338



The Search Continues

We continue to communicate with the Diocese in our search for a permanent rector for Trinity. Strange times as you all know.

There are a number of open positions in the Diocese and strangely the candidate pool is only at around 15 to 20% of what it typically would be, making the odds of a divine match a little longer. The Diocese are working hard to fill all these positions, including Trinity.

We need the power of prayer from our congregation! Please pray that we might meet, in the very near future, a permanent rector for Trinity who can build on the solid foundation that Mother Susan Keedy has been instrumental in providing for us these last years.



Grades 1 thru 6

Lessons are now available online at
<https://www.trinityfuquay.org/sunday-school>

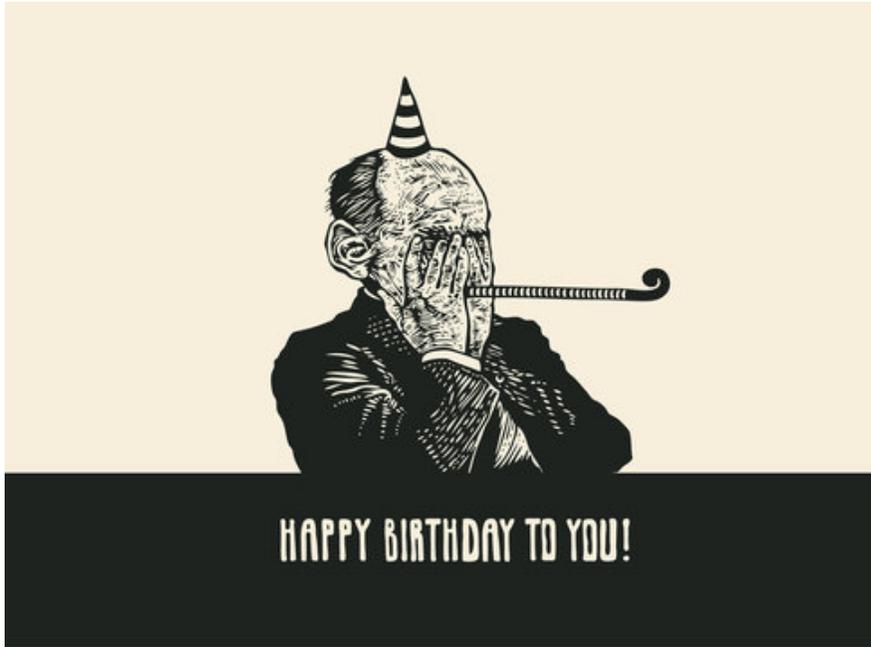
Angier Food Pantry Needs:

**Breakfast Cereal
Rice**

Please drop off any donations at the church.

The Food Pantry is also looking for volunteers to collect, sort and pack food.

October Birthdays



- 11/3 Edna Gaston
- 11/4 Blake Stewart
- 11/8 Brian Earnest
- 11/9 Susan Gilbert
- 11/15 Rick Rodgers
- 11/17 Frances Macauley
- 11/20 David Stewart
- 11/24 Phil Day
- 11/24 Todd Truffin
- 11/26 Dawn Bowles

If we missed your birthday or have the wrong date, please email 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

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



The Place Was Barking!

The Blessing of the Animals on October 3 was a rousing success! I know that I enjoyed some great hot dogs and reveled in seeing so many faces that I did not know. God gave us perfect weather to bless the efforts of Karen Teague's team, guided by TryTank, an organization that is part of the larger Episcopal Church.

Estimates suggest that over 200 people attended the event, and who knows how many animals received a special blessing from Mother Susan.

Several folks shared images of the day with us. Enjoy!





It's (going to be) The Most Wonderful Time

Time is flying! In just 9 weeks, we will celebrate the birth of Jesus.

We have a lot of pent up Christmas spirit since we were unable to gather at Christmas in 2020 and could only enjoy the church service on our computers and TV's.

Our friends at TryTank.org--who helped us with the Blessing of the Animals--are helping us again as we look to make Christmas 2021 a glorious time. We can't reveal too much right now as things are in the early stages, but...could we interest you in fire pits, blankets, hot chocolate?

Keep your eyes on your email or better still, sign up for Trinity's text service. Text the word **MyTrinity** to 866-603-3621 from your cell phone.



Sonnet Sequence with Todd Truffin

Beside the Golden Door by Rita Dove

Surely there must be something beautiful to smile upon--
the umbered blue edge of the sky as it fades into evening,
the brusque green heave of the sea. When I
look up, surely there will be a cloud or a lone star
dangling. Truth is, the Truth has gone walking--
left her perch for the doves and the ravens
to ravage, hightailed it to the hills, to the quiet
beyond rivers and trees. No matter
what ragged carnival may be thronging the streets,
what bleak homestead or plantation of sorrows
howling its dominion, Truth would say these are
arrogant times. Believers slaughter their doubters
while the greedy oil their lips with excuses
and the righteous turn merciless; the merciful, mad.



Don't let "them" tell you formal poetry—and sonnets—are dead. The November 2021 issue of *Poetry*—a leading publisher of American poetry—includes a sequence of 14 sonnets by Patricia Smith. Pulitzer Prize winner and former U.S. Poet Laureate Rita Dove's 2021 book *Playlist for the Apocalypse* contains at least 7 sonnets.

"Beside the Golden Door" is, perhaps, one of the gentler poems in Dove's new collection. Throughout the book, Dove explores what it means for the followers to be unrepresentative of what they profess to follow.

The first stanza of this Italian sonnet sags with hope: "Surely there must be something beautiful." Interestingly, the examples of beauty are all scenes of nature—not human action. The second stanza completes the opening observation. While there must be something beautiful out there, the "truth is, the Truth has gone walking." Believe it or not, this is still a hopeful stanza. Dove does not posit that there never was Truth or that Truth is something other than truth. Rather, Truth has "hightailed it to the hills." Truth has withdrawn to nature.

The usual Italian sonnet often uses the last six lines to offer a solution to the problem outlined in the opening. It may seem that Dove's poem only lists the concrete reasons

that Truth has taken a sabbatical, but perhaps Truth, here, does offer a kind of solution. If, indeed, the world is a place where “believers slaughter their doubters” and “the righteous turn merciless,” perhaps these are “arrogant times.” How often have you successfully conversed with an arrogant person and helped them see a new way?

Proverbs 29 suggests that a wise man who contends with a fool has no rest—and no success. Indeed, Proverbs also opens with the image of Wisdom saying that if ignored she “will not answer” even if those who ignored her “seek me diligently.” The current time may be a “ragged carnival” that turns the “merciful, mad,” but Dove’s poem reminds us that we can still find Truth in “the umbered blue edge of sky as it fades into evening” or “the brusque green heave of the sea.”

Youth Opportunity: Dismantling Racism

Weekend Retreat for Grades 6-12

@ Haw River State Park, November 5-7

The Youth Department of the Episcopal Diocese of NC has recently revamped the general Dismantling Racism curriculum to better serve youth.

They are looking for teams of at least two (could be more!) youth per parish along with an adult. The adult does not have to be a youth minister.

The team will be trained in the curriculum and sent forth to hold Racial Justice training events in their parishes. They do request that at least one event be held per year.

The Weekend Retreat will cover

- the history of racism
- concepts of racial identity, bias, privilege, and prejudice
- learning how to engage in difficult conversations
- reflecting on ways to bring this training into our lives and our parishes

The retreat costs \$125 per participant and covers housing, food, and all materials.

Training materials will be provided for each team to take back to their parishes.

The Senior Warden informs me that Trinity will sponsor one adult and two youths if anyone is interested.

The deadline to register is November 1. If you're interested get in touch with the Senior Warden or Mother Susan ASAP

Email leah.dail@episdionc.org for more information or to register.

Here's Your Chance to Provide Altar Flowers!

Now that some are meeting in person and others are worshipping online, the opportunity to dedicate flowers for the altar is open.

For those who wish to participate, please email **Annette Stowe (annette@annetestowe.com)** at least 2 weeks in advance.

In the email please include the desired date, name of donor(s), reason for dedication (in memory of . . . , in honor of . . . , in thanksgiving for , , . to the glory of God . . .etc) , and indicate who will be picking up the flowers after the Sunday service.

Then mail a check for \$25 to Trinity Episcopal Church and indicate "flowers" on the memo line. Please contact Annette to sign up or if there are any questions.



The Altar Guild Needs YOU.

In this month's newsletter Deacon Bob writes about the challenge churches in the diocese are facing getting volunteers to do the work done prior to the pandemic. You've also heard Mother Susan speak about the need for Altar Guild workers.

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

The activities are not hard; the reward is immeasurable; and the camaraderie can't be beat. There are many options to participate. 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)** for more information or to volunteer, . Can we count on YOU?



Let Us Know What's Happening

The Trinitarian is one way we communicate what's going on in our little patch of the Jesus Movement. You don't have to be an official leader of a Church Ministry to submit news to *The Trinitarian*. If God is doing something amazing in your corner of the world, we want to hear about it. 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. If you are celebrating an important milestone or achievement...you guessed it, we want to hear about it.

Don't worry if you think your writing skills aren't "newsworthy," 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

Services are LIVEstreamed on our **YouTube** channel every Sunday Morning at 10:15am.

Subscribe to TECFV on YouTube. You can also view past services whenever you would like.

