



Issue 7 | Date: July 2020 | [www.trinityfuquay.org](http://www.trinityfuquay.org)

## A time to celebrate!

My dearest Trinity family,

I hope that all continues to be well in your lives as we march faithfully on against the Coronavirus. I continue to pray every day that you and your extended families will be safe and healthy. Of course I continue to pray for the family members and friends who have died and for their surviving families.

The life of our community of faith goes on and is remarkably active for a group of people who have always relied on being together on Sundays to strengthen us for mission. We have added a new page to our website which is intended to be a place to go to pray or contemplate or just relax. We call it Sacred Space. I hope you enjoy it. We will be adding organ music to the Sunday services in July.

I am so excited to announce that we have hired Daniel Ponder as our regular organist. He has been so busy during this time providing hymns for those who attend our virtual service as a Zoom group, practicing regularly at the church, and recording the music for our Sacred Space. We will hear more from him when we add hymns to our worship in July.

The Vestry is working on making plans for our return to communal worship and what that will look like and what we can do to ease some of the crowding problems we were already grappling with before the Coronavirus.

Finally I encourage each of you to send a note or a postcard to someone each week. You don't have to write a letter, just say "I'm thinking of you today." How nice it is to know that someone is thinking of you when you are apart.

I miss each and every one of you and think of you so often.

Susan+



Born in Romania, Daniel came to the United States at a young age and grew up in Virginia and North Carolina with brief stints in France, Austria, and Canada. A graduate of UNC at Chapel Hill, he studied Bassoon and French Literature. Upon graduating, he attended Indiana University's Jacob School of Music for a Masters in Musicology and Early Music. His bassoon, clarinet and keyboard teachers have all been distinguished musicians in academia and orchestral circles. Daniel has a strong background in working and teaching in academia and churches. When he is not at the organ or the bassoon, Daniel works in accounting for Duke University. In his spare time, he always has a book in his hand reading on the subjects of musicology, history, politics, architecture, and religion. He also enjoys hikes through Duke Forest and the Appalachians, French film, and is an avid coin collector. When money and time

are available he enjoys travel abroad to Canada, England, France, and Israel.

# Sonnet Sequence

with Todd Truffin



Thus far, I've presented two very contemporary sonnets. This month, I invite you to the early 17th century and a sonnet by Anglican priest George Herbert. The Poetry Foundation notes that Herbert considered Roman Catholics and Puritans "twin dangers like Scylla and Charybdis between which the British church must navigate: the via media is best." As Robert Rubin has illustrated this summer, the via media is a long-established Anglican tradition. In Herbert's time, a major point of contention between Protestants and Roman Catholics was the role of Holy Scripture in personal life. In "The Holy Scriptures I" Herbert calls the Bible "the thankful glass, / that mends the looker's eyes" and notes that the Holy Scripture reveals heaven "to ev'ry mounter's bended knee." Clearly, Herbert did not adhere to the Roman Catholic view that kept Scripture from the people. Let's read Herbert's "The Holy Scriptures II."

**Oh that I knew how all thy lights combine,  
And the configurations of their glory!  
Seeing not only how each verse doth shine,  
But all the constellations of the story.  
This verse marks that, and both do make a motion  
Unto a third, that ten leaves off doth lie:  
Then as dispersed herbs do watch a potion,  
These three make up some Christian's destiny:  
Such are thy secretes, which my life makes good,  
And comments on thee: for in ev'ry thing  
Thy words do find me out, and parallels bring,  
And in another make me understood,  
Stars are poor books, and oftentimes do miss:  
This book of stars lights to eternal bliss.**

The first eight lines of the sonnet express the speaker's wonder at the mysterious way that Holy Scripture works in the life of a believer. The speaker does not understand "how all thy lights combine" to "make up some Christian's destiny." Despite the mystery, Herbert declares that Scripture "makes good" his life. How? In "Holy Scripture I," Herbert notes that Scripture "washes what it shows," and here, he notes that "Thy words do find me out, and parallels bring." In this extraordinary Ordinary Time, individuals and the Church are being called to examine ourselves (as Paul might say) whether in regards to the societal inequities revealed by the pandemic or in regards to the sin of racism. Herbert reminds us that the Holy Scriptures will "find [us] out," but unlike the Accuser, Holy Scripture "washes what it shows." We serve a God who, when sin is found, promises to cleanse the wound and make us whole.

Also, do not miss the clear contrast Herbert makes between the guidance of Holy Scripture and the guidance of Astrology. The references to constellations, potions, destiny, and that "stars are poor books" clearly set the guidance of God's Word against the advice of sign readers. In Herbert's time as in our own, people were desperate for guidance and would sometimes seek guidance wherever they could find it. Herbert's advice is to stay focused on Holy Scripture: "This book of stars lights to eternal bliss."

## Things to Think About as We Carry On - Deacon Bob

### Oh What hard times we are experiencing.

When darkness and fear is all about us, Light a candle.  
That light is the light and love of Christ which will overcome.  
We are called to be that light. To be the hands of Christ in the world.  
So reach out in love. Listen to the pain of others, and through the power our Lord,  
Offer hope, love and then strive for justice for all.  
Remember the words of the Prophet Micah.  
What does God Require of us.  
"Love kindness, do Justice and walk humbly with your God."

- **from Fr. Rick Simpson, ChaplainTSSF**



The Outreach Committee is embracing a new look at an old way of giving. While we know that some people are in dire need of assistance, some people are blessed with funds they would like to donate during this pandemic. The Pandemic Fund will be a group of specific donations to help both charities and individuals in need because of COVID-19.

If you would like to donate to this fund, simply place Pandemic Fund on the memo line of your check. Outreach can disperse the funds to the groups we are currently donating to or allow Mother Susan to assist folks who may come directly to the Church for assistance.

This would be over and above what the Vestry has designated for outreach in the budget. Any money from this fund that is not dispersed at the end of the year could be given to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund as an addition to our end of the year disbursement.

Could this be a step in dealing with the unrest around us? I took another step and signed this pledge but thought it had many good points we all need to look at in our own part in working through this unrest.

"At the dawn of the Summer of 2020, our nation is in a crucible wrought by racist systems and structures that permeate every facet of life in the United States, including health care, employment, education, wealth, the criminal justice system, and housing, and they infect far too many faith institutions and traditions.

Those of us in the Christian tradition have also been complicit with anti-semitism and Islamophobia. We are here, with the future of this nation and its faith traditions in the balance, because we too often have embodied the words of the prophet Jeremiah in the Abrahamic traditions, by treating 'the wound of God's people carelessly, saying 'Peace, Peace' when there is no peace' because there is no justice.

These wounds are disproportionately afflicting Black, Brown, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native communities, and we recognize that our embrace of dehumanizing theologies wounds the souls of White people as well.

Every time we forget that each person is made in the image of God, we move further away from our own humanity. Ideas and systems that support white supremacy are a cancer that eats away at our minds, hearts, and souls, and reinforce systems of inequality that hurt poor and working class White communities as well.

Yet there have also been many times faith leaders, including White faith leaders, have labored for justice, including work for abolitionism, voting rights, civil rights, a just immigration system, and an end to racialized mass incarceration.

In the spirit of this tradition, we are calling all White clergy and faith leaders to join us in uprooting theologies and practices that promote or accommodate interpersonal, structural, and systemic racism, and replace them with life-giving ways of making meaning, building relationships, and reconstructing just systems and structures.

Together we will go on a journey of transformation in the weeks and months ahead to ground ourselves in the deep truth that our own liberation and wholeness are woven into the larger struggle for racial justice. We will sojourn in deep solidarity with Black, Brown, Asian/Pacific Islander and Native clergy and faith leaders to embody the beloved community.

*continued...*

**On our Journey we will learn to ATONE/REPENT:**

We atone for our personal acts of racism

We atone for our failure to hear the cries of our kindred

We atone for our silence in the face of racial injustice

We atone for our tight grip on leadership and control of faith institutions and traditions

We atone for valuing law and order and possessions more than the lives of Brown, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native Peoples

We atone for our complicity with unchecked police violence and racism toward people of color

We atone for calling for peace while failing to address deeply rooted racial injustice and inequities

**On our Journey we will learn to AFFIRM:**

We affirm our humanity as White faith leaders who are accountable to Black, Brown, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native leaders

We affirm the release of the captives of our racialized incarceration state

We affirm the necessity of a truth and reconciliation process for our faith traditions and nation

We affirm that justice demands fighting for restitution and reparations from our faith traditions and our nation for Black, Brown, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native communities

We affirm the need to build redemptive power with our colleagues of color to bring systemic and structural change to our nation

**On our Journey we will learn to ACT:**

We will act by bringing our prophetic voices into the public arena

We will act by leading our congregations to confront our racism and anti-blackness

We will act by calling for the firing of racist police officers

We will act to transform our system of policing, criminal justice, immigration, and mass incarceration systems that are decimating Black, Brown, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native communities

We will act by taking responsibility for our part in the struggle against anti-blackness and for racial justice"

**How can we carry the light and love of Christ and together respond to this call here and now?**

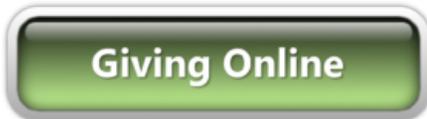
- Deacon Bob

**ON-LINE GIVING**

Thanks to everyone who has continued to financially support Trinity by sending checks in the mail and making pledge payments and donations online using a credit card.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL!** As much as we appreciate it, it is risky to do so and we would encourage you to write a check or use the online portal.

The online portal is completely secure and is instant. Your information is available to only one person who records and credits your household with the pledge payment. Please continue to consider supporting Trinity until we are able to meet and worship together at our beautiful church.



Look for this button on the main webpage or click this button NOW!



**Grades 1 thru 6**

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



**Online Adult Forum**

The Middle Way: Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church, from the Romans to present day.

***LIVE** weekly half hour interactive adult forum - Wednesdays at 7.00pm*

**How to join Robert on Zoom:**

1. Email [robert.rubin@mac.com](mailto:robert.rubin@mac.com) and register your interest.
2. Download "Zoom client for meetings" and install **-HERE**
3. You will receive an invitation and link to the forum.

## July Birthdays

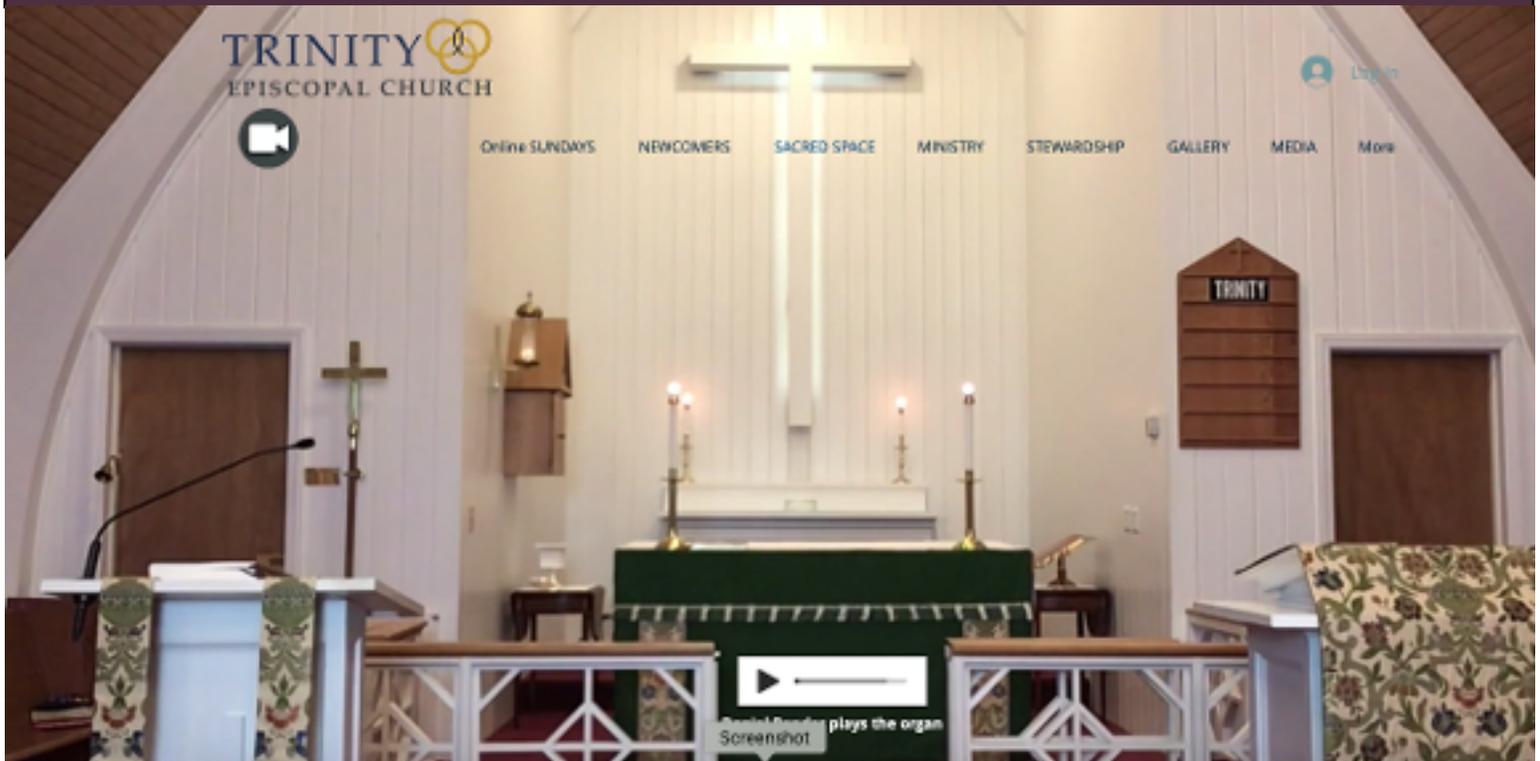
# Happy Birthday to all!

7/3 Susan Steel  
7/4 Mitch Macauley  
7/15 Robert Rubin  
7/18 Daphne Jackson  
7/19 AnnMargaret Braham  
7/21 Jeannie Stowe  
7/29 Lea Lilie  
7/30 Victor Cortes

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



## SACRED SPACE

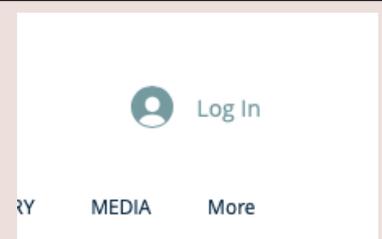


We hope you can take advantage of being at church on our "[Sacred Space](#)" page. This video of the space plays automatically when the page opens. To listen to our organist, Daniel Ponder, please click the play button and adjust your volume accordingly. There may be a slight delay on the music starting depending on your internet speed.

## Updated Directory

To access the directory on the website, you must be a site member. Look for the "Log In" at the top right of the website, click and follow instructions to sign up.

**Please note, access is restricted to known church members.**



## 9th annual En PleinAir Paint-Off art

This year, Trinity Episcopal Church was one of the subjects of a local art competition

Trinity Episcopal Church by Judith Collins  
Art Walk Location: Piedmont Pottery  
332 S Main St, Fuquay-Varina

The idea is to support local artists and the FVDA with this annual fundraiser that became an exciting virtual event this year! The art has been temporarily installed at locations throughout downtown. There are three ways to participate:

Enjoy the Art Walk now through July, 14th when you visit the businesses hosting each painting. Please adhere to the posted safety guidelines posted at each location.

Cast your vote for People's Choice when you "Like" your favorite in the [Facebook Album](#).

All the art will be auctioned beginning Thursday, July 16th! We'll share the link to the online auction when it's available.



*I view my ability to paint as a "gift" that I should cherish, nurture and continue to develop. A never ending process! My hope is that I will convey through my paintings the joy I have experienced while creating each one. If I can accomplish that, I will have successfully shared my "gift" with you.*

*Judith Collins*

### **Trinitarian Contributors this July:**

Mother Susan Keedy, Daniel Ponder, Deacon Bob Thomas, Todd Truffin, Susan Steel & Martin Steel

Have something to contribute? Email [srwarden@trinityfuquay.org](mailto:srwarden@trinityfuquay.org)



**TRINITY**   
EPISCOPAL CHURCH