



# THE TRINITARIAN

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## Welcome, Father Bob!



On Sunday, March 6, Rev. Robert Henderson presided at his first Sunday as the first rector of Trinity Episcopal Church.

This was a joyous day for both Father Bob and our congregation. The Sunday service was followed by a scrumptious brunch and much fellowship.

Sunday wasn't Fr. Bob's first service to our parish. Earlier in the week, he led the Ash Wednesday service, and he joined our representatives at the special diocesan convention held on Saturday in Winston-Salem. That's hitting the ground running!

We look forward to getting to know Fr. Bob and Charlotte.

# Two Bishops, One Hippie Wedding, and 50 years

On April 3, Nancy and Rick Rodgers celebrate 50 years of marital bliss.

In 1972, the families gathered at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers, NC.

The Bride wore a white peasant shirt and gingham maxi skirt with a white lace mantilla. She carried the only three daffodils they could find to steal out of someone's yard. The Groom wore his best lawyer suit.



Officiating were the Most Reverend John Hines, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, and Rt. Rev. Robert Brown, Bishop of Arkansas (both friends of the Groom's family who happened to be in town for Easter). No pictures of the event were taken because it slipped everyone's mind.

A second wedding was performed 18 months later because Bishop Hines screwed up the paperwork, and the Bride didn't want to share their new house with her Mother-in-law if the Groom died without a Will.

The couple had planned to get married on April 1 and exclaim "April Fool's" instead of kissing. But Bishop Hines didn't think it was funny and made them wait until April 3. He wanted them to make sure they were serious. The Bride thinks her future Mother-in-law probably put him up to it since she already had someone else picked out for the Groom.

The happy couple honeymooned later because they had to get back to work by noon the next day (and at that point couldn't afford a nice trip anyway).

## **Angier Food Pantry Needs:**

**Breakfast Cereal & Rice**

**Canned Vegetables (other than corn & green beans)**

Please drop off any donations at the church.

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

# Thank you, Mother Susan!

On Sunday, March 27, around 60 parishioners gathered at Mims House in Holly Springs to wish God's peace and farewell to Mother Susan Keedy who has been our interim during one of the most vibrant periods in Trinity's history. In short, she came into a mission church in dire financial straits and introduced a measure of stability and hope. Her expertise as an interim shined through, and Trinity experienced its best period of growth since it was established. In 2019, Trinity gained parish status, and, in 2021, we called our first permanent Rector.

Mother Susan was joined by her son, Christian Keedy (Senior Warden at St. Stephen's Durham), daughter-in-law Cara Keedy, and their 3 sons. Everyone enjoyed a splendid buffet, an open bar, and a wonderful venue.

Mother Susan had the chance to talk to everyone before she was brought up front and center and was "roasted" by Susan Steel. In a heart-warming thank-you to the parish, Mother Susan acknowledged the exceptional presence of the Holy Spirit at Trinity and thanked everyone for the unconditional support.

The afternoon was capped by a gift from Trinity parishioners, raised through a special collection, for \$3,500.00 in which it was expressed that there was no restriction on its use, but we hoped she used it for herself!



# Welcome to the Family, Evelyn Mae!

On Sunday, March 27, we celebrated with the joy of the baptism of Evelyn Mae Lago who was born into the world on 8-24-2021.

Her parents Courtney & Enrique Lago and God parents Kaitlyn Rose Armitano & Ethan Marcus Armitano, along with the entire parish, witnessed the Presentation and Baptism of Evelyn, The Rev. Bob Henderson's first at Trinity!



## Holy Week Schedule

### **Apr 10: Palm/Passion Sunday**

10:15 a.m. - Meet in yard for Liturgy of the Psalms

10:20 a.m. - Procession into the Nave

10:25 a.m. - Holy Eucharist and reading the Passion Gospel

### **Apr. 14: Maundy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. - The Liturgy for Maundy

### **Apr. 15: Good Friday**

7:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross followed by the Liturgy for Good Friday

### **Apr. 16: Easter Eve**

7:00 p.m. - The Great Vigil of Easter

### **Apr. 17: Easter Day**

10:15 a.m.- Festival Holy Eucharist

# Love Given, Love Received, Love Returned

Although the stewardship campaign is officially over, I've just now dug this article out of my boxes, and I need to share it with you. Please consider it as you make your pledge, or perhaps, reconsider the pledge you have made.

I once served a church that had a breakfast outreach ministry. Every Sunday, parishioners took breakfast to shut-ins and 20 or so others we knew were in need.

One of those was an older man – Sam – living in the Projects. At one time, he made money picking up aluminum cans along the roads and selling them. By the time we began taking him breakfast, he was housebound and living on his \$610-a-month social security check.

One day, he called a parishioner to thank her for the Sunday breakfasts she had been bringing him.

“No one has ever done anything like this for me before,” he said. “I want to do something back. I want to tithe to the church. Ya’ll come by this afternoon and pick it up.”

She and her husband went by his small apartment. Sam invited them in and said, “Now here’s a check for \$61. My social security check is for \$610; \$61 – that’s right, isn’t it?”

They tried to get him to keep the money or write a check for a smaller amount, but he insisted on tithing what he had.

Love given, love received, love returned. That’s what life in a Christian Community is all about – offering love out of gratitude for what we are given – receiving love from those offering it – returning that love when we can, from our grateful hearts.

I look around at all I want, all I have, all I think I need for myself and my family. I look at how I spend my money and how little, really, I offer back to God.

Then I think about Sam, his social security check, his gratitude, and his \$61.

I try not to be ashamed.



# Outreach Focus: Operation Nahyelle

Operation Nahyelle ([operationnahyelle.org](http://operationnahyelle.org)) is a nonprofit that some of you are familiar with because we joined with them on a couple of ventures in 2021. They are a brand-new Nonprofit 501(c)3 located just down the road from Trinity in the Dollar General Shopping center.

Operation Nahyelle's mission is "to restore faith and provide opportunities for low-income families Operation Nahyelle partners with local churches, volunteers, community leaders, and donors to provide clean clothing, food, toiletries, and water to subsidized families in need." They hold backpack give-a-ways and food give-a-ways on a periodic schedule.

They are very much a family run operation. When you visit them during their events, you will see Melonie, her siblings, her mother, as well as Nahyelle all working hard to ensure the success of their events.

The organization is named for Nahyelle Gilchrist. The daughter founder Melonie Gilchrist-Lanier. Nahyelle was born April 10th, 2009 and entered foster care two months later. She was placed with Melonie on July 31st, 2009. Nahyelle transitioned between her birth mother and Melonie for ten months before permanently returning to the Lanier home. Nahyelle's adoption was finalized on Melonie's birthday, September 27th, 2011.

The experiences of both Melonie and Nahyelle through this process inspired Melonie to reach out to others who are in need of love, understanding, and a little assistance to help them not only to survive but to thrive. Operation Nahyelle accepts donations of

**Clothes:** New or gently used and washed.

**Food:** Perishable and Non-perishable. Not expired.

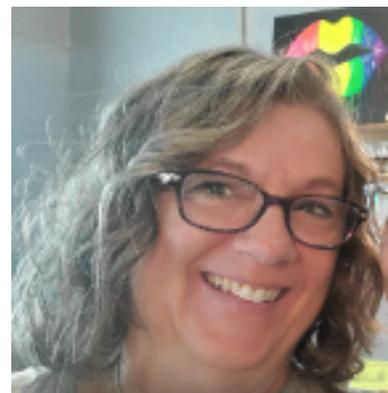
**Toiletries:** Women's products, tissue, adult depends, children's diapers, pull ups, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouth wash, body wash, deodorant, soaps, and paper towels.

**Monetary:** donations are used to support their operational expenses as well provide the above items, as needed.

**For the Month of April Operation Nahyelle is focusing on cleaning supplies.**

Donations are accepted Tuesday and Thursday from 3-6pm at 800 S Main Street Fuquay-Varina

As we here at Trinity transition to our new Priest, we will be evaluating our Outreach Program and determining where we want our funding and volunteer efforts to go. We will be scheduling an Outreach Meeting soon, please watch for information on our next meeting, and I hope you will join us to add your input in to where you want Trinity to be involved.



# What Are We Called To Do?

*A report from Kate Reichert*

On March 5th and 6th, I, along with Alex Lamont and Father Bob, attended a Special Conference of the North Carolina Diocese. The goal of the convention was to celebrate and launch the diocesan mission strategy. The mission strategy was developed to help our congregations move toward fulfilling our Mission to Become a Beloved Community. The mission strategy is built on these mission priorities:

- Racial Reckoning, Justice & Healing
- Congregational Vitality
- Collaboration & New Communities
- Formation
- Creation Care



Prior to the conference, we were asked to look at how the work of our own church is reflected in these mission priorities. This process started by first looking at ourselves. We were asked to find one thing God is calling us as individuals to do. This exercise helped me find my church identity that was lost during COVID. I encourage you to take some time to ponder the same questions:

- What work is happening in our church that brings you, life, joy and energy?
- What ministries do we currently offer?
- What partnerships are part of our current mission?
- What strengths and characteristics of our congregation do you take pride in?

Next, we were asked to engage YOU, the congregation, in a conversation to help all of us recognize, focus, expand and celebrate the work the Holy Spirit is initiating in our congregation. We also need to identify our dreams for the future. The group decided to postpone the congregation conversation until our new rector, Father Bob Henderson, was settled in.

To assist you in preparing for our conversation, here is a link to the Mission Strategy Goal Summary:

[https://www.episdionc.org/uploads/images/mission-strategy-summary-march-3-2022\\_115.pdf](https://www.episdionc.org/uploads/images/mission-strategy-summary-march-3-2022_115.pdf)

The goal is not for every church to be involved in every mission priority; rather, the goal is for each church to find that one thing God is calling us to do, and start there or take the next step along that path.

As you look at the mission goals and strategies for each priority, please consider these questions posed by the diocese:

- Which priority or priorities are connected to the work we are currently doing?
- Do you see different priorities in particular areas of work and ministry?
- If you see more than one priority, how and where do they intersect?
- When you think of the future, what work do you want to expand?
- What work would you like to start?
- What do we have in place/available to help with that new or expanded work?
- What else do we need?
- What obstacles do we need to overcome?

In summary, I feel the timing of the mission strategy rollout coincides perfectly with the next steps for Trinity as we welcome our new rector and come together again in the wake of the tragic pandemic.

Please be a part of this conversation as we are not whole without you; we each are members of one body.

## We Need Mowers!!

Trinity parishioners -- we currently have a 3-person rota for mowing the lawns, but we would like to double it so each person only has to mow every 6 or so weeks! Think about the therapeutic and relaxing value of sitting on a riding mower, in the glorious outdoors, listening to your music or a audible book or just contemplating God's creation while doing an invaluable ministry. Instruction will be provided.

email [srwarden@trinityfuquay.org](mailto:srwarden@trinityfuquay.org)



# Lift a Sweet Aroma to the Lord

Flowers on the altar not only look beautiful, they also add to the full sensory experience of worship. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, email **Annette Stowe ( [annette@annetestowe.com](mailto: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.

# 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?



# April Birthdays



- 4/1 Bobby Norris
- 4/7 Cissie Jenkins
- 4/12 Mason Cranford
- 4/14 Jack Lilie
- 4/20 Steve Teague
- 4/21 Marilyn Fischer
- 4/26 Douglas Kern

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

## Remember the Resurrection

As we move through the season of Lent, we move nearer to the glorious celebration of Easter. Now is your opportunity to honor or remember someone special in your life.

Tradition has it that lilies sprung from the ground in the Garden of Gethsemane where drops of Jesus' blood dropped as he prayed the night before his resurrection. The lily has ever since been a symbol of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection.

Envelopes for Easter lilies are in the pews. Please place a check for \$15 in the envelope and on the front of the envelope please put your name and the person(s) you wish to honor then leave in the collection plate.

Your gift will enable our sanctuary to glorify God and honor those we remember with gorgeous lilies.



# One of a Cloud of Witnesses

Last April, both of my parents were struck by the COVID-19 virus. As soon as I learned this news, I sent an email to the Daughters of the King asking them to pray for my parents and my family.

Over the next few weeks, my father recovered, but my mother was hospitalized and ultimately died on April 26.

At each development, I contacted the Daughters of the King and updated them so that they could pray accordingly.

Not only was it a comfort to know that my church body was lifting me and my family up in prayer, I believe strongly that their prayers--along with many others--helped my mother peacefully bid her family goodbye and helped my family grieve in grace and peace.

Please remember that your church is here for you. --Todd Truffin



Marc Chagall, *Job in Prayer*

## 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

"Easter" by Edmund Spenser (16th century)

Most glorious Lord of Life! that, on this day,  
Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin;  
And, having harrowed hell, didst bring away  
Captivity thence captive, us to win:  
This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin;  
And grant that we, for whom thou diddest die,  
Being with Thy dear blood clean washed from sin,  
May live for ever in felicity!

And that Thy love we weighing worthily,  
May likewise love Thee for the same again;  
And for Thy sake, that all like dear didst buy,  
With love may one another entertain!

So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought,  
--Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.



English poet Edmund Spenser is best known for his romantic knight epic *The Faerie Queene*. However, in his spare time, he also developed a hybrid form of sonnet that came to be called the Spenserian sonnet. It blends features of the English and Italian sonnets. Four-line sections intersect with each other. There is usually a significant 8-6 logical break. And, as we see here, there is a two-line summation or comment at the end.

Spenser's 16th-century poetic language can be a bit challenging to modern ears. I did update the spelling to make it somewhat easier. I think this may be a poem that benefits from starting at the end: "let us love, dear Love...Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught." For God is love (1 John 4:8), and Jesus said that the two greatest commandments were to love God and to love our neighbor (Matthew 22). How do we do this? Especially when our nature is to not love? Spenser reminds us that at Easter, Jesus made a captive of Captivity. Jesus "dear blood clean washed" our sins so that we can we can give love its worthy weight. As captives of sin, we are unable to give love the weight it is worth. When we weigh love as worthy, loving our neighbor will have the value in our eyes that it rightfully should.

# 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 "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](mailto: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 **TECFV** every Sunday Morning at 10:15am.

You can also view past services whenever you would like.

