



# Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

## May 2016

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Last fall, our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving, traveled around this great diocese to discuss his response to changes last summer: The Supreme Court's decision legalizing same-sex marriage in the United States and The Episcopal Church's removal of gender specific language from Canon Law specifying the parties that may be married in The Episcopal Church (thus authorizing all couples to be married).

During his visit, Bishop Skirving affirmed many things that he believed about this issue, and how we might live out our baptismal covenant in our common life as Christians. (If you would like to read more about Bishop Skirving's thoughts, these and other materials may be found here: <http://www.ecdio.org/Resources/resources-for-same-sex-unions.html>). Of the many great suggestions made by our bishop, one was an invitation for all churches to study marriage: what, legally and theologically, marriage has meant in the past, and what the word marriage means in 2016.

Indeed, this brings an important component to this discussion. As I have heard service men and women say, "words have meaning." When we use the term, "marriage," do we have a consensus as a community about what that word actually signifies? Are we indeed comparing apples to apples? Or, given the matrix of sociological and cultural changes during the past several decades (in and out of the church) and our very different experiences of those developments, do we at times talk past one another?

To that end, your Vestry and I have agreed to accept our bishop's invitation to study marriage as a community. Over the summer, we will offer 6 Sunday discussion sessions (open to all) from 9:15 – 10:15 am in the Johnston wing. We have intentionally chosen summer for these sessions in order to enable our choir and music ministers to attend these sessions, if they so desire. As usual, childcare will be provided during these times.

We have invited Dr. Patrick O'Neil to lead 3 of these sessions. Professor O'Neil is an Assistant Professor of History at Methodist University. His research focuses on how Americans' ideas about rituals and cultural artifacts unite and divide them and his current book project focuses on the American understanding of marriage. Patrick's 3 sessions will be mirrored by three sessions designed to enable theological reflection and discussion led by leaders in our community chosen for their ability to listen to and empathize with all sides of a given issues. The schedule will be as such (all at 9:15am):

Sunday, June 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Dr. Patrick O'Neil: "Uses and Definitions of Marriage"
Sunday, July 17 <sup>th</sup> :	Follow Up: Theology and Discussion
Sunday, July 24 <sup>th</sup> :	Dr. Patrick O'Neil: "Government, the Church, and Marriage"
Sunday, August 7 <sup>th</sup> :	Follow Up: Theology and Discussion

Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>: Dr. Patrick O'Neil: "Marriage: Covenant vs. Contract"  
Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>: Follow Up: Theology and discussion

To be crystal clear, the sole intention of these gatherings is study and prayer. We do not approach the discussion of marriage with the same opinions and experiences, nor will we arrive to the same conclusions as a result. One hallmark of the Anglican tradition (and the Episcopal Church) is our ability to discuss and disagree about important issues before we gather in prayer before our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I invite you, therefore, to attend some (or all) of these gatherings this summer, as we take our bishop's invitation and study this important issue as a diverse church family gathered in prayer.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact me or a Vestry member regarding this or any other issue.

Faithfully,

Jeff+

**Staff/Vestry Transitions:** Over the past several months, we have had several staff and vestry transitions.

Conchita Harris and Heidi Witty resigned their Vestry positions in anticipation of geographical relocations. As per Holy Trinity bylaws, the Vestry has appointed 2 individuals to serve out these terms until the next Annual Meeting, at which point the remainder of these terms will be nominated and elected. Fitz Lee and Dane Reid, respectively, have been nominated by the Vestry to fill these positions. Both were chosen because they ran for Vestry at the last Annual Meeting and were the candidates with the next most votes.

Bette Scott has served valiantly as our Financial Administrator for some time and, at Bette's request, we have replaced her with Jewelry Schroeder who will continue as our Financial Administrator. Bette and Jewelry have been working together as Bette trains Jewelry for this role.

## *MARK YOUR CALENDARS*

**May Fair 2016 - May 7<sup>th</sup> - 8:00am-1:00pm.**

**50/50 Split Raffle Tickets:** Tickets for Holy Trinity's 50/50 raffle are \$5.00 each. The church and raffle winner split the pot. Everyone is a winner!

**Baked Goods Needed:** The congregation is invited to contribute homemade baked goods to sell at the Altar Guild Baked Goods table at May Fair. We have a lot of wonderful cooks and this is your opportunity to show off your talent! Cookies, brownies, pies, cakes --- all are welcome! Please package to sell and bring to the kitchen anytime Friday or to May Fair first thing Saturday morning. Thank you, the Altar Guild

**Schedule for delivering May Fair Treasures:** On Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, the church will be buzzing with activity - with attic classics, clothing and shoes, plants, jewelry, hotdogs (always the best EVER!), books and music, baked goods, baby and children's items, our raffle, and lots of FUN! BUT before that can happen, there is much preparation to get done!

**Sunday, May 1:** after church - we need many people with strong backs to set up the Parish Hall, Narthex and Sanctuary.

**Sunday, May 1, between 1 and 5 pm:** begin to drop off your yard-sale items. Please bring particularly heavy items to the main Narthex doors or the Parlor doors.

**Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 6, between 9 am - 3 pm, and 6 - 8:30 pm:** bring your items to the church - someone will be there to help you unload if you need help. Also, during these times, please come and help organize the "treasures" we will have to sell! There is much to be organized, as we get additional treasures every day!

**Saturday, May 7:** get there early if you can help move the furniture outside and help with the final set-up. Then, come, work a shift, and BUY! And send your friends.

**Saturday, May 7th, 1pm:** PLEASE stick around, or come back to help set the church "back to normal!" Packing up, sweeping, moving the chairs in the Sanctuary are all needed.

If you have heavy items you need picked up, please call Jimmy Driscoll (910-237-9430) or Jim Thomas (910-964-1631).

**Rite 13 Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood, May 8<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 service.**

Rite 13 is the liturgical cornerstone that lays the foundation for the entire congregation of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church to rise up and in one mighty voice tell our young people, "You matter to us. Your lives are of inestimable value. The journey you are now embarking on is significant." It is a way that we fulfill our baptismal covenant of "seeking and serving Christ in all persons." We have purchased a Bible for each youth to commemorate the occasion. The Bibles are in the church office. We would like you to write a message to each youth. Don't miss this incredible chance to be a part of this celebration!

**The Reception Ministry** will hold a reception for the Rite 13 Celebration on May 8<sup>th</sup> and requests that parishioners bring something light to share. Cake will be provided. The Reception Ministry will do the same thing on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Trinity and Senior Sunday. Your food items are much appreciated.

**Labyrinth Walk – May 12 at 7:00 pm.** The Evening Labyrinth Walk for May is *postponed a week* due to the week-long preparations for our fantastic May Fair yard sale. The Evening Labyrinth Walk will take place instead on **Thursday, May 12th from 7 - 9 pm.** Please arrive at 7:00pm if you want to watch the optional orientation video. If you just want to walk, please arrive no later than 8:15pm. Joyce Loughlin



**Women's Connection** - *a holy village for moms of every kind*

In May, we will gather on the 13th at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall at Holy Trinity to talk about Prayer. If you are able to join us, please bring your beverage of choice and a snack or dessert to share. We do not have childcare available, however if that precludes you from attending, please know there are babysitting scholarships available. We will meet again on May 26th for Yoga on the Labyrinth.

**Women's Connection** *Continued:* This summer we will have a more intimate, social gathering on the second Thursday of the month. We will also continue our monthly Yoga practice on the fourth Thursday of the month. Additionally, we will have biweekly morning play dates at parks around Fayetteville. Please stay tuned for dates and locations! *Annie Thornberg*

**May 15 Newcomer Gathering:** NEW to Holy Trinity? If you are a new member since September/October, please join us for a couple of hours for food, fellowship, and fun on **May 15<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity from 5-7:00pm.** Food, childcare, and beverages will be provided so you can get to know Holy Trinity and we can get to know you! Please call 910-484-2134 or email [admin@holytrinityfay.org](mailto:admin@holytrinityfay.org) with questions or to let us know that you can attend. Hope to see you there!

**May 22 is Trinity Sunday and we will celebrate our graduating seniors.** If you have a senior who is graduating, please let the office know so we can recognize them. Please note, there will be ONE SERVICE that day at 9:30am.

**May 22 is Church Periodical Club Sunday.** Its purpose is to spread the written Word throughout the world. Today free Bibles, prayer books, literature and periodicals are supplied throughout the Anglican Communion worldwide. In our diocese funds are supplied yearly to our seminarians to supplement the cost of their books. CPC is supported solely through donations to finance its operations; therefore we need your help! Contributions come from parishes, clergy, individuals and Episcopal Church Women to further this ministry but the primary source of funds is collected in the church pews on CPC Sunday. Your support is both needed and appreciated. *Jane Squires*

**Vacation Bible School:** August 8-12 at St. John's Episcopal Church. More details to follow.

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### UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Friday, May 6	Rite 13 Ceremony dinner at the Philbrook's – participants and their parents are invited
Sunday, May 8	Rite 13 Ceremony at 10:30 worship service
<b>Sunday May 15 and 22</b>	Sunday Formation (9:30-10:15)
Sumer Break!	

### PRESCHOOL NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS



**NEEDED:** We are looking for just the right people to be lead teachers – one for our 3-year-olds and one for our 4-year-olds. Contact Ruth Gillis for more information @ 910-484-0250.

**OPENINGS:** We still have a few openings for Fall.

**SUMMER PROGRAM:** Registration forms for summer are by the Preschool office. Reservations must be made by May 18 so that we can determine which weeks to offer. Children must have been in preschool prior to the summer.

## *Reports and Updates*

*News from the Food Pantry* - March was somewhat slow for the Food Pantry due to Easter and the office being closed the week after Easter Sunday. We served a total of 125 households, with 20 of them being new clients. The total including everyone in a household was 228. Our clients are 50% seniors (over 60) with 81 of the total households headed up by a person with a reported disability. During the months of February and March we celebrated the Lenten season by adding additional cans of soup to the bags, adding about 7 grams of protein.

In March Sid Gardner learned that Second Harvest had a big sale on peanut butter and offered some canned vegetables for free. Sid, thank you for taking advantage of this sale. Our clients are very grateful.

Sid is looking for people to help him when he goes to Second Harvest to pick up food. It isn't that often, but when a group goes to Second Harvest they need to be able to load their own vehicle. Perhaps there are some high school students that would be willing to get some volunteer hours for college applications. We also need some help this summer with packing food bags. I would also like another couple of volunteers for full time packing (one day a month during office hours). Please contact the Administration office or you may contact me, Sharon Robertson, at 910-485-1372.

Finally as you're cleaning out for May Fair, if you have extra toiletries, i.e. tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc., please donate them to the Food Pantry. The small, travel size ones are ideal. Again, thank you for all that you do to support Holy Trinity's Food Pantry! It is greatly appreciated. *Sid Gardner, Pat Stang and Sharon Robertson*

## *April 2016 Vestry Highlights*

The vestry met the evening of Thursday, April 15. The meeting was opened in prayer led by Fitz Lee. Kasmin Davis presented the minutes of the vestry's March meeting, and they were accepted.

Neil Bergman, treasurer, presented current financial statements, which were accepted. The financial condition of the parish is excellent. The vestry authorized payment for a yoga instructor, to conduct classes on the labyrinth, from regular income and approved payment of expenses for 3-4 persons to attend training in the fundamentals of "Godly Play" from the King Fund.

Junior Warden, Mark Philbrook, reported on roof repairs that have been completed to the main building and Johnston Wing and he is awaiting an estimate for the administration building. Mark and Walter Clark are investigating potential upgrades for parking on the grounds.

The Rector, with input from members of the parish, has developed a program for teaching a discussion related to the Theology of Marriage. We are fortunate to be able to have Dr. Patrick O'Neil involved in this important educational journey for our parish. Teaching

sessions will occur on June 26, July 24 and August 14 with follow-up discussion sessions on July 17, August 7 and August 21, respectively. Please be on the lookout for more information as it becomes available.

The vestry voted to approve the final draft of Holy Trinity Preschool's by-laws and they are now in effect.

The vestry reminds the entire parish that forms are available, and must be completed and turned into the church office, for any request for money or use of the parish space or equipment. Those forms are available in the church office and on line at the HTEC website.

The meeting was adjourned, and ended with compline. The next vestry meeting is scheduled for May 19. *Tom Holt*



### **PRAYER LIST:**

Cheri Adams, Alescha C, Frank Allison III, John Ashford, Baby Louisa, Gladys Best and her family, Cozie Baucom, Richard Buck, Jean Canham\*, Cody, Eli Davis, Victor Dawson, The Bocan Family, The family of Penny Gardner, The family of Phyllis Goodwin, The family of George Lassiter, The family of Dr. Joe Running, Sr., The family of Charles Stewart, Charleene Heidegger, Edward Hickman, Larry Jensen, Linda Karp, Stephen Kent, Susanne Kohrman\*, Susan Lefferts, Joyce Lipe, Ruby Locklear, Michael Macias, The Magee family, Janice McFadyen, The McKinnon Family, The Montoya family, Anne Mizelle\*, Sandra Moore, Neal, Marie Parker\*, Margaret Peterson\*, Ann Phillip, Paul Reichle Jr.\*, Joe Roberson, Louis Seidel, Debby Sims and her family, Heather and Chris, Tom South, The Suguitan and Pascual Families, Mary and Harold Syms\*, Jimmy Teachey, Ruby Terrell, Diana Thomas, Leslie Venable, Wesley.

\* Denotes Visitation Welcomed.

### **Military Prayer List**

Leroy, John, Cedric, Daven, Scott, Daniel, Mike, Jon, Stephanie, Sam, Trey, Ed, Amanda, Robert, Augustus, Roger, Kyle, Brian, Oliver, Alex, Thomas, Nicholas, Alex, Matthew, Mitch and Abigail.

Contact the church office at 910-484-2134 or [admin@holytrinityfay.org](mailto:admin@holytrinityfay.org) with prayer requests or fill out a prayer request form found in the narthex.

**Note about birthdays:** Our database was migrated to the "cloud" and only birthdays with the year you were born converted. If you don't see your name in the birthday list, please call the office and give us the year you were born. Thank you, Janice



## **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

**2.** Sarah Holt, Phil Smith **3.** Gauge Francis **5.** Bette Scott, Brandon Pajunen, Katie Thompson **6.** Harriet Thornberg **7.** Brenda Nunnally **10.** Beth Helsinger **11.** Keith St. Peter **12.** Zoe St. Peter, Carly Reeves **13.** Roger Watts **14.** Brian Hoffman, Matthew Davis, Terry Lowinger, Elizabeth Scott **15.** Winston Hoffman **16.** Barbara Heine, Ray Vallery **17.** Ryan Connor, John Whiteman, Jake Fleming, Leslie Allison **19.** Elyse Sprengle **20.** Amy Beene, Brian Hercik, Elizabeth (Ann) Phillip **21.** Lorette Hollinshed **22.** Stacey Alecca, Cai Davis, Joshua Garcia, Ron Quick **23.** Martha Booth **24.** Robert Grantham, Frank Whitworth **25.** Julie Lee-Jacobs **26.** Stephanie Hecker, Kasey Quick, Michelle Turner **27.** Spencer Harris, Charles Moorman **28.** Cody Lutes, Jake Jacobs **29.** Reed Swinford, Lyn Whitehead, Frank deBros **30.** Daniel Robert **31.** Larry Scott



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
1601 Raeford Road  
Fayetteville NC 28305



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**Return Service Requested**

**Staff and Clergy**

**The Rev. Jeffrey D. S. Thornberg, Rector**

**The Rev. Joe Running, Assisting Priest for Pastoral Care**

**The Rev. Anne C. S. Thornberg, Assisting Priest for Children's Education**

**Sean Cloz, Interim Director of Music**

**Donna Griffin Davenport, Interim Organist**

**Jeremy Fiebig and Jon Hecker, Vergers**

**Janice Luce, Parish Administrator**

**Bette Scott, Financial Administrator**

**Ruth Folger Gillis, Preschool Director**

**Charles Stewart, Sexton**

**VESTRY:** Senior Warden: Rob Richardson, Junior Warden: Mark Philbrook, Treasurer: Neil Bergman, Clerk: Kasmin Davis

2016: Kasmin Davis, Alison Jones, Mark Philbrook, Rob Richardson

2017: Tom Holt, Fitz Lee, Keith St. Peter, Dane Reid

2018: Scott Hancox, Wendy Hustwit, Julie Lee-Jacobs, Mike Morketter

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Office: 484-2134/Fax: 484-3198 Preschool: 910-484-0250**

**Website: [www.holytrinityfay.org](http://www.holytrinityfay.org)**

**Email: [admin@holytrinityfay.org](mailto:admin@holytrinityfay.org)**