



TRINITY TOPICS

The Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

POTTSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

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May/June 2022

ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

Dear People of God at Trinity,

The forty days of darkness have passed and the Light has been revealed to us and we rejoice! Alleluia! Never has such love been shown the way God has loved us in sacrificing his Son to redeem us. The love of God for us is extravagant and Jesus, in His humanity as well as his divine self has taught us to love in faith and joy. No matter our difficulties or challenges, we know that God's love endures through all things. This abiding love shows us how to bring that message to our community and the world — let us move forward in joy and hope as servants of Christ exemplifying God's boundless love! Alleluia!

TOPICS ALERT

It has become increasingly apparent that the TOPICS sent out bi-monthly is not being read by many of our parishioners. In an attempt to save money at the church, we are offering options for you to continue to receive parish news, but change the way we do that. The bulk mailing permit is \$265 per year, each bulk mailing is an additional \$30 and we are using over 8,000 sheets of paper each year for the TOPICS. The following are four options for you to choose to still receive parish information while helping with the church budget. Thank you! We hope to change this with the July/August edition, so please respond in a timely manner.

1. Read the TOPICS at the parish website: trinityepiscopalpottsvillepa.org
2. Have the TOPICS emailed to you.
3. Pick up a copy in the church.
4. Have it mailed as usual (for those who don't have internet access)

Please email your preference to johnwtrinity@gmail.com or call the office at 570-622-8720 if you have no internet access.

Your Vestry

Trinity Church's Mission Statement

“Living, loving, sharing in the name of Jesus Christ”

Vision Statement

“Honoring the past as we build a strong foundation for the future, while sharing our Christian faith through service to the community.”

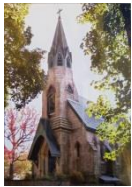


In-Person Worship and Zoom

What a blessing to be able to worship in person and it is wonderful to see parishioners in the pews. We are still offering Zoom if you feel uncomfortable in person and we will continue that through the summer at the Chapel of the Resurrection. Services will be held there beginning in mid-June. If you would like to be included in the Zoom email list, please contact Father Kurt at nomenk3@hotmail.com or 570-640-1738. He will be most happy to include you. The service is at 9 am.

Topics Changes

Please be sure to email or call your preferences about receiving the TOPICS as soon as you can. The proposed changes are on the first page of this edition. There are several ways you can still be informed about parish events and help the church to save money. Thank you!



Summer Services

The summer services at the Chapel of the Resurrection at Charles Baber Cemetery will begin on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 9 am. There will be no services at the main church through September 11, 2022.

Lay Eucharistic Visits

Home visits have begun and those who are homebound are very grateful. Please call Cathy Clouser if you would like to schedule a Communion visit. We are grateful to our Lay Visitors for this loving ministry.



United Thank Offering

We continue to be grateful for all our blessings. We are thankful for in-person worship once again, for the ability to worship through Zoom, for our Vestry leadership, our priests and lay leaders and many events in our personal lives. Please be mindful of those less fortunate who have suffered and are suffering as your put your coins of gratitude into your UTO box. Offerings will be collected in September.

Concert Reception

Our last concert of this season is Sunday, May 1 at 4 pm (see enclosed flyer)—please plan to attend and support these two wonderful student groups from Messiah University. We will host a reception after the concert. Please offer your delicious goodies if you are able. Thank you!



Episcopal Church of Schuylkill County

There are two June events sponsored by North Parish: June 4 will be St. John's fundraiser during Ashland Pioneer Day and June 16 will be the annual Strawberry Festival at Holy Apostles. Please come and join us! More information will be coming in the weekly bulletins. Thank you to all who helped in any way for the Potato Cake Batter and Haluski fundraisers — the total was \$740.03.



THE MUSIC CORNER

by Cora A. Gamelin-Osenbach

Alleluia! He is Risen! How wonderful to celebrate our Risen Lord in person and to share the beauty and wonder of this service with our Zoom parishioners. We rejoice as our mood changed from the Passion reading on Palm Sunday, the somber, helpless feeling from the Good Friday Stations to the new fire and light of the Vigil and the resounding triumph of Easter Day. Many thanks to all who participated as readers and Teagan and Elliot Wehr who offered their musical talents at the Easter Vigil. Let us carry the extravagant love of Christ for us into the community and the world. Sing Alleluia!

Concert Series

Our March concert featuring Samantha Wood Balboa, Ruben Balboa, III and John Kline IV was greeted enthusiastically by our audience. As usual, you provided wonderful food for all to enjoy after the concert. What a blessing to have our season complete and once again our patrons cannot be thanked enough for their support. One more concert on May 1 (please see enclosed flyer) will support student musicians from Messiah University as they prepare to continue their careers as performers and educators.

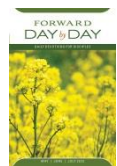
Our 2022-23 season is very special since we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of our Austin Organ, Op. 1040. The kickoff concert will be Sunday, October 9, 2022, at 4 pm featuring F. Allen Artz, III as guest organist. There will be some special presentations that day. Please put this date on your calendar and more details will be coming soon.



Cooking Demonstration Dinner

I would like to thank everyone who supported the cooking demonstration dinner on April 9. We sold 27 tickets and made a profit of \$140.00 to be used for our Summer Reading Camp ministry. It was an enjoyable evening with good food and the opportunity to socialize and renew old friendships and meet new people. Everyone enjoyed the huge baskets of bread that are the specialty of Bake Shop VI and the amazing pear tart that was served for dessert. We also got many cooking tips from the chef, Brian Setlock, that will give us new ideas to try in our kitchens. We received many requests to hold another dinner and plan to do so in the fall. If you have any ideas or requests for what you would like to see on the menu, contact Barb Tokarz.

Forward Day By Day The May/June/July edition of the Forward Day by Day is now available. Please contact the office if you would like one mailed to you or make arrangements to pick one up.





Summer Reading Camp News

Plans for Summer Reading Camp are progressing and we are looking forward to exploring our theme of *Dogs and How They Help People*. We have scheduled several canine guest visitors for camp. The PA State Police 's Canine Unit, a German Shepherd Rescue, a guide dog, and an accelerant sniffing dog will be our guests. If anyone would be willing to visit the camp with your dog so the children could take turns reading to your pet to improve their fluency, please contact Barb Tokarz or Lea Bortner.

On Wednesday, April 20, we hosted our first family game night with pizza in the Parish Hall. The goals for this event were to allow the children and parents to meet the staff and children they will be attending camp with, complete the applications for camp, and allow the families to enjoy a night together and have fun.

We want to thank you for your support of the Lunches for Learners Program. Thanks to your generosity, we have met our goal and will be able to provide nutritious well -balanced meals for the children. For those of you who still want to support the camp, there is another opportunity. We will be transitioning to a Books for Readers Program that will enable the children to bring books home to build their libraries. The article that follows will give more detail about this program.

We need one person who can act as a lead teacher in the Pre-K class. This volunteer would not have to have a teaching background, although it would be helpful. We have many materials already prepared that you could draw from and plenty of assistance from the camp staff. It is an amazing ministry and volunteering will lift your spirits and make your day. Please contact Barb Tokarz if you are interested.



Books for Readers

Our Summer Reading Camp assists students who struggle with reading. Research shows putting books in the hands of struggling readers is an important step in creating interest in reading. We'd like to provide our students with a variety of books and allow them to take home one book a day during the summer camp. We have an arrangement with Scholastic books, who can supply us with a great variety of books! The cost of one book is approximately \$3.00. To supply a student with books for the whole week is \$15. If you can contribute to Books for Readers, please send your donation to the church or place it on the offering plate labeled Books for Readers. If you have any questions, please contact Lea Bortner or Barb Tokarz.

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 AM Service With Zoom 4 PM Concert Series	2	3	4 12 Noon Healing	5	6	7
8 9 AM Service With Zoom	9	10 6 PM CBC Meeting @ Church Lounge	11 12 Noon Healing	12	13	14 10 AM Wedding @ CBC
15 9 AM Service With Zoom 10:30 Vestry	16 4 PM Soup Kitchen	17 3 PM MPTF Meeting @ Rectory	18 12 Noon Healing	19	20	21
22 9 AM Service With Zoom	23	24	25 12 Noon Healing	26	27	28
29 9 AM Service With Zoom	30 Happy Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	31				

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>12 Noon Healing</i>	2	3	4 <i>St. John's Fundraiser at Pioneer Day</i>
5 <i>9 AM Service With Zoom—Pentecost</i>	6	7	8 <i>12 Noon Healing</i>	9	10	11
12 <i>9 AM Service with Zoom at Chapel of the Resurrection Trinity Sunday</i>	13	14	15 <i>12 Noon Healing Last Until Fall</i>	16 <i>Holy Apostle's Strawberry Festival</i>	17	18
19 <i>9 AM Service With Zoom— Chapel of the Resurrection 10:30 Vestry</i>	20 <i>CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR FLOOR REFINISHING 4 PM Soup Kitchen</i>	21 <i>CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR FLOOR REFINISHING</i>	22	23 <i>MPTF Picnic @ Bubeck Park Schuylkill Haven Time Will Be Announced</i>	24	25
26 <i>9 AM Service With Zoom— Chapel of the Resurrection</i>	27	28	29	30		

News from Marian C. Price Trust Fund



Summer Picnic – Thursday June 23, 2022

The Marian C. Price Trust Fund Board would like to invite all Episcopalians age 60 and over to join us for a summer picnic. The picnic will be held in Pavilion 2 at Bubcek Park/Stoyers Dam, Washington St. Schuylkill Haven. The picnic will begin at noon. We will have lunch, some games, and time for socializing in this lovely park. Parking is plentiful and handicap spaces are available. Restrooms are also located by the pavilion. In case of inclement weather, we will hold picnic in the social hall at Holy Apostle Church in Saint Clair.

Kindly respond to Cathy Clouser at (570) 621-3220 by Monday June 13, 2022 if you plan to attend. The invitation is open to all Schuylkill County Episcopalians (and guest) age 60 and over. If you are willing to provide transportation, or are in need of transportation, please call me at the office so I can make arrangements. We hope to see you there!



I am sure that we all remember paying just \$1.00 for a gallon of gas? Many of you probably remember paying much less. The average price of gas went over the one-dollar mark in 1980 according to Credit Donkey. Although Pennsylvania is not in the top five states with the highest gas prices right now, gas is currently over \$4 a gallon. I have included some tips on how to save money on your gas bill. Surprisingly, simple changes to your driving habits can significantly impact your overall fuel bill at the pump.

- * Make longer less frequent errand runs-consolidate your trips to get all errands done in one day instead of making several trips per week.
- *Minimize idling time-Avoid running your car when parked or waiting. When warming your car on a cold morning, only run long enough to reach a comfortable interior temperature.
- *Use a gas app to find cheapest gas, such as GasBuddy. This app features close to real time gas prices to help you to find the cheapest one.
- *Take advantage of reward cards which may offer up to 3 cents off each gallon of gas purchased. Some credit cards earn cash back or points for purchases made at the gas pump.
- *Stop and start gradually. Accelerate slowly and coast gradually to a braking stop. You may reduce fuel consumption in both stop and go traffic and on the highway.
- *Reduce excess weight by cleaning out unnecessary junk that accumulates in your car. Excess weight can have a noticeable impact on your fuel economy.
- *Keep your tires properly inflated to save an average of 0.6% and up to 3%.
- *Use correct motor oil and fuel grade-follow the recommendation of your car manufacturer for your vehicle best performance.
- *Check gas cap seal if your car is older and does not have this warning light.

*Limit air conditioning use by using your vehicles coolest non-AC blower setting if possible. On hottest days use lowest comfortable AC setting or Eco Ac setting if you have one.

*Fill up before your tank is empty-get your gas the lowest cost you see rather than waiting until you need it and have to pay a higher price so you don't run out.

*Other things like carpooling and not driving around looking for a better parking space can also help save you some money.

Gas is not the only thing putting a strain on your wallet. Food prices are increasing as well.

Here are some hints to help save money on your grocery bill.

*See what's on sale by looking at grocery store flyers and on-line ads.

*Make a grocery list and stick to it. Use a calculator to stay on budget.

*Use coupons wisely. Only buy food you will use and check expiration dates.

*Shop at grocery stores or supermarkets instead of more expensive convenience stores.

*Try not to shop when you are hungry to avoid being tempted to buy items not on your list.

*Buy in season because fruits and vegetables are cheaper when in season.

*Buy frozen or canned when fresh is out of season or too expensive.

*Know your food prices so you know if a sale is a good deal.

*Choose store brands when possible as they are usually cheaper. Try no-name or store brands in cereal, pasta, vegetables and canned goods.

*Look high and low-not in the middle. The most expensive items are usually put on easy to see and reach shelves. Some of the less expensive items may be on higher or lower shelves.

Look for the "best before" and expiration dates on food so you know if you will consume them and not waste food items.

*Compare costs by "unit price" to see which is the better buy. This compares prices ounces to ounces.

*Stock up on the basics when they are on sale-just be sure to use before the expiration date.

*Grow your own vegetables and herbs in the summer-even if you don't have a backyard.

Tomatoes, lettuce, basil, radishes, cucumbers, spinach and many others may be grown on a sunny porch or balcony.

*Visit farmers markets in the summer for fresh produce at good prices.

Food pantries also provide food items which can help decrease your monthly food bill. Helping Harvest provides regular scheduled pantries at the Walk in Shoe Factory in Schuylkill Haven and the Fairlane Village Mall in Pottsville. Helping Harvest can be contacted at (610) 926-5802 or on Facebook to obtain a schedule. Other agencies throughout the county offer food pantries as well.

LIHEAP is available to provide financial assistance for oil. The contact number is 1-866-857-7095 if you would like more information or to see if you qualify.

Prices are increasing on many things we use daily. This may create a hardship, especially for those living on a fixed income, so any assistance that you may qualify for would be helpful.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are in need of any assistance. I have a list of Schuylkill County resources that are available and can provide you with the contact information. I may be reached at (570)621-3220 or MPTFund@gmail.com.



Charles Baber Cemetery Preservation Trust

Hoping for Spring

May-June 2022

Is Spring ever going to come? We seem to have been housebound forever, hogtied by covid and its increasing number of variants, frustrated with the high price of gas and food and building and home furnishing materials, saddened by casualties and the devastation of the war between Russia and Ukraine, aghast by the endless number of tornados hitting the eastern United States, hampered by canceled plane flights and/or the high cost of plane tickets if we do manage to get away for a brief vacation, and now plagued by torrential rains and flooding. Our bodies and souls are screaming for sunshine, warm air, and the freshness of spring. Oh, the joy of just being alive and being able to walk outdoors. The robins, groundhogs, squirrels, and bunnies are everywhere. And soon the finches and hummingbirds will appear. The coy in the pond hasn't been seen yet (they still may be in suspended animation). Interestingly, the swamp white oak by the pond and the copper beech still cling to their dried leaves. The London planetrees along Market Street are slowly dropping their downy brown seed balls which are collecting in soft piles of fuzz along Market Street. The spiky fruit balls on the sweetgum to the east of the pond have just started to drop in piles on the ground. And the dark brown seed pods on the redbud by the 16th Street entrance are still draped on the twigs.

The yellow and white daffodil, purple azalea and red tulips by the chapel are in bloom. And our Easter-colored flowering trees of pinks, whites, purples, fuchsias, yellows, and greens are appearing or coming soon. They are cheerful colors that warm your heart and make you want to smile. Our sunset red maples have already presented their red leaves and hanging catkins; however, because of the cold weather in April, our other flowering trees are delayed in blooming. There are the pink and white flowering dogwood and the kousa dogwood throughout the property; the white flowering black and fire cherry on the hillside down from the chapel and on the hill down from the middle school; the pink double petaled kwanza cherry by the pond; the pink weeping cherry east of the entrance; the white-flowered callery pear and the Japanese lilac by the carriage house; and the fuchsia flowers on the redbuds by the 16th Street entrance. In mid-May, we have late bloomers like the pink and white petaled magnolia, the yellow with a green band tulip-shaped flower on the tulip tree, the tiny white flowers on the baby coffee tree, the dark red lollipop flowers of the staghorn sumac, and the yellow and white cone-shaped flowers of the horse chestnut.

Even our evergreens like the arborvitae, yew, spruces, white pines, cryptomeria, Japanese larch, and eastern red cedar are welcoming spring with needle growth or flower clusters. The white pine grows a three-pronged trident of yellow/green small needles that stick up like three raised fingers from the normal needle cluster. The Japanese larch, as the only evergreen to lose all its needles over the winter, is busy growing long strands of needle spurs. The Norway spruce grows tiny light brown seed clusters. Some of the yews grow red berries. The cryptomeria replaces all its chocolate-colored pompom-shaped needle clusters with bright green bouquets. The arborvitae for the most part simply stays green no matter what season.

Nubby leaf buds are appearing on most of the trees, except the oaks which are always late. The ginkgo in particular with their nubs alternating on the twig look like zippers hanging on each limb. Hanging catkins are appearing everywhere, particularly on the box elder and the Norway maples. Some catkins appear before the leaves and others appear after the leaves form. Come, walk the many paths, and enjoy Spring!

Black History Month Celebrated in February

The Baber Cemetery held a ceremonial memorial service celebrating the life of Ralph Brock who, in 1906, became the first black forest ranger in America. A pin oak tree in memory and honor of Ralph Brock had been planted in 2011 at our Arbor Day celebration sponsored by the DCNR. There were about 25 people in attendance including Mayor Dave Clews, representatives from the Conservation District, DCNR, the Shade Tree Commission, Porcupine Pat, several church parishioners, several cemetery board members, and Fr. Kurt Kovalovich who gave the opening invocation.

Ashes in a Flash

Lea and Peter Bortner were very kind to provide free ash anointing to the public on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, at the main entrance into the cemetery. It was provided to both walkers and drive-ins. Thank you, Lea & Peter.

April 29th Arbor Day Tree Blessing

At the time of this Topic insert article which has to be in by April 15th, our Arbor Day tree planting and tree blessing celebration has not occurred yet. However, it appears like it will be another good year with 9 of our 10 trees sponsored to date. Today, we planted 4 sunset red maples, 3 sugar maples, 1 tulip, 1 cryptomeria, and 1 Japanese red maple. And we had to replace two baby redbuds planted last year that didn't survive the year. Regardless of rain or sun, Arbor Day is a beautiful, optimistic day that is always filled with the promise of birth, life, caring for the earth and the environment, and perpetuating a thriving natural garden park for many future generations to enjoy. Our 2022 tree sponsors were: (1) In Loving Memory of Joseph and Ella Asson given by Peggy Moser; (2) In Loving Memory of George and Emmeline Stone, Sr. given by Carol S. Field; (3) In Loving Memory of Russell Frantz given by the Frantz and Ferguson Family; (4) In Loving Memory of Theodore Neal Brown given by Fred and Dona Brown; (5) In Thanksgiving for the Blessings in Our Life given by Attorney J. R. and Ellen M. Zane; (6) In Loving Memory of the Honorable Joseph F. McCloskey given by Peter and Patti Armstrong; (7) In Loving Memory of the Honorable Joseph F. McCloskey given by Joanne McCloskey; (8) In Thanksgiving for Diane E. Artz (Mom) given by F. Allen Artz III and George Stralkus; (9) In Celebration of the 115th Anniversary of the Mahantongo Chapter given by the Daughters of the American Revolution; (10) Not sponsored at this time.

Memorial Day Flag Replacement Service

Last year, the cemetery was fortunate in having the high school members of the Lion's Leo Club replace the 580 Veteran flags for Memorial Day. We have contacted the Leo Club and I'm happy to report that the Leo Club will again be replacing the flags for Memorial Day 2022.

East Gatehouse Roof Collapses – Urns Painted – Electricity to the Barn

(1) The flat roof on the Egyptian Revival Period east gatehouse has failed. We have to replace the roof, 3 support beams, the shorted-out old electrical system, and drywall on the upper floor. The insurance company has paid \$26,000 towards the \$35,000 expense. We will replace the essentials of the roof, the beams, and the electrical system. (2) The west gatehouse has issues that will soon have to be addressed including the roof, drains and gutters, electricity, the dirt floor, and a sagging inner wall. (3) We were going to have the two entrance cast iron urns painted, but the one arm is broken and needs to be specially welded, and the urns have to be sandblasted before painting, and then should be placed on concrete slabs. The cost of doing this is unknown at this time. (4) Lastly, we were finally installing electricity in the equipment storage barn because there is no lighting to work on the equipment. We are hoping to raise the \$11,750 through a contribution from a plot owner and a charitable trust. More detail on all of these repairs and renovations in the next *Topic* issue.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our ground maintenance request letter sent out in February. Your contributions help cover large expenses like labor and health insurance costs, chapel heating oil bills, and insurance.

Trinity Episcopal Church Concert Series



Sunday May 1, 2022
at 4 pm

Messiah University Saxophone Quartet and The Grantham Brass Project

These two talented groups of students will provide an exciting afternoon of music for our audience. Both groups have performed at the highest level of chamber music for various conferences and festivals.



The Saxophone Quartet will feature all ranges of the instrument and are members of the Messiah Saxophone Studio. They are under the direction of Dr. Todd Goussion.

Special guest soloist will be Sarah Diehl, a Music Education major at Messiah who plays flute as her principal instrument.



The Grantham Brass Project was founded in 2007; they have performed at the Rekkedals Brass Festival in Germany and are coached by Dr. Michael Harcrow.

Come meet the Artists at a post-concert reception.

No Admission Fee - Free Will Offering Taken

For more information, contact Trinity Episcopal Church
200 S. Second Street, Pottsville, PA 570-622-8720
Episcopalch200@gmail.com trinityepiscopalpottsvillepa.org

Trinity is Handicapped Accessible

Upcoming Events

F. ALLEN ARTZ, III, ORGANIST

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE AUSTIN ORGAN, OPUS 1040.

Sunday, October 9, 2022

Trinity Episcopal Church

200 South Second Street
Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone: 570.622.8720
Fax: 570.621.3221
Return Service Requested

Deadline
For
July/August "Topics"
Wednesday, June 15, 2022

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 305
Pottsville, PA 17901

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Please see the first page to read pending changes to the TOPICS mailing procedure. We appreciate your timely response with your choice of receiving parish information.



May Birthdays

2 – Carol Ann Bigg
3 – John Wilk
5 – Evelyn Barnwell
6 – Kellon Jones
7 – Cara Kovalovich
8 – Paul Barnwell
11 – Pam Foley
12 – Gabrielle Menuchak
16 – Bonnie Eckert
18 – Jacquelyn Curtis
20 – Nicholas Lewars
24 – Elaine Howells
26 – Mason Frederick
28 – Tom Dodds
29 – Jack Mansell
30 – Nancy Cairns
31 – Marria Walsh

June Birthdays

2 – June Bednar
3 – Cathy Clouser
4 – Ann Beaver, Robert Petlansky
Corinne Gearhart, Aralyn Schenck
6 – Michael Pozza
11 – Keith Grabowski, Brady Hess
12 – Howard Mitchell
13 – June Reedy
14 – Lynn Holden, Karen Fehr
19 – Paul Harley, Joanne Barton
24 – Robert Wetzel Jr.
25 – Frank Osenbach
26 – Ronald Frederick, Teagan Wehr
29 – Zachery Brennan
30 – Robert Bedford, Tina Walb, Hunter Banonis