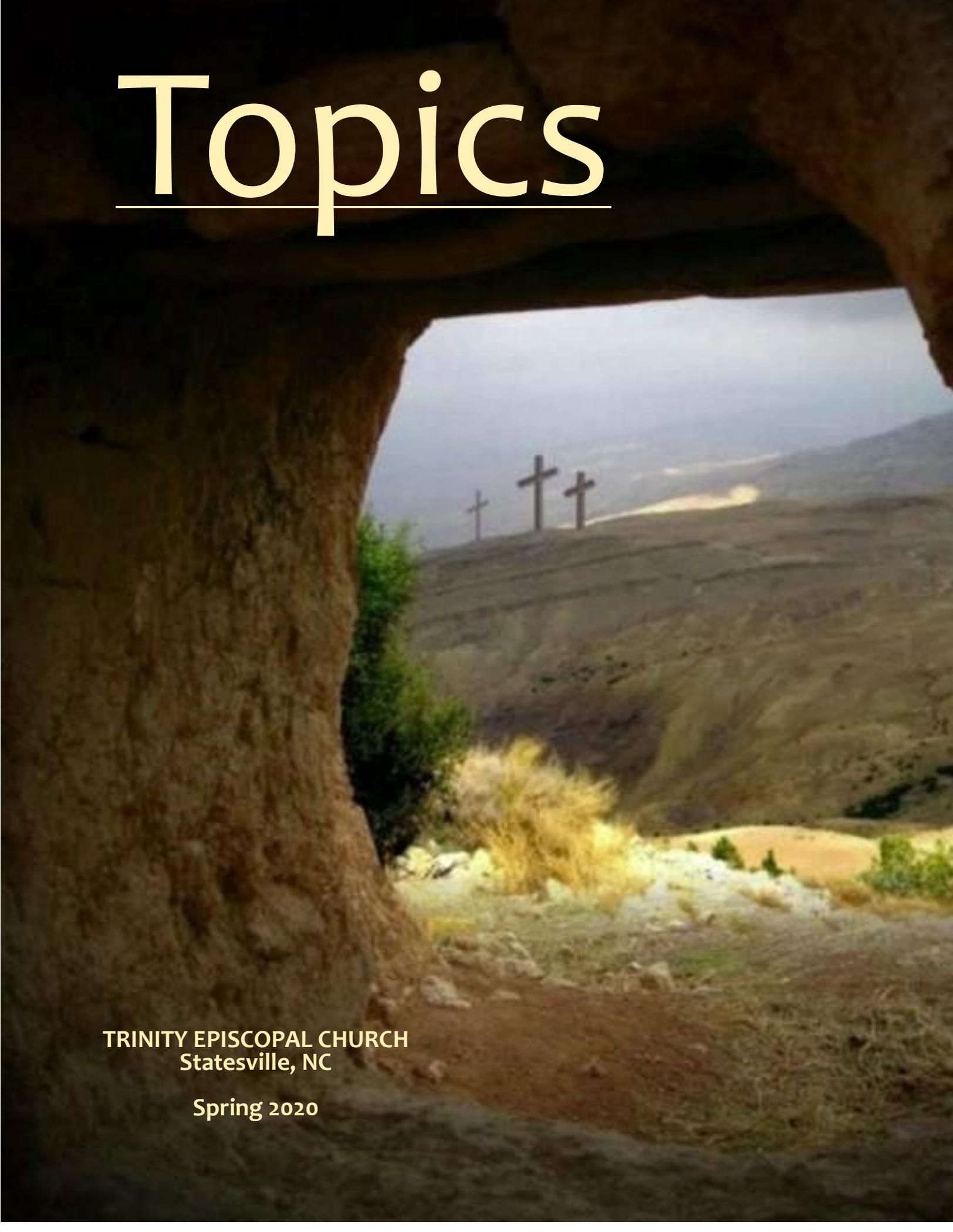


Topics



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Statesville, NC

Spring 2020

Trinity Topics

VOLUME 40 | Number 1

Spring 2020

Staff, Vestry, & Officers

Rector | The Reverend Brad Mullis

Interim Organist | Chuck Lindler
Preschool Director | Sherry George

Senior Warden | Ron Smith
Junior Warden | Bill Neely
Newcomers & Evangelism | Jim Rhyne
Outreach | Larry Trott
Finance | Doug Stobbe
Communications | Sandy Manly
Family Ministries | Dino Quarantiello
Parish Life | Re Johnston
Pastoral Care | Neal Wilfong
Liturgy & Music | Jerrie Greene
Environ. Stewardship | Jane Getsinger
Youth | Elizabeth Rankin

Vestry Secretary | Wendy Allison
Treasurer | Evie Caldwell
Assistant Treasurer | Jim Lawton

Trinity Topics is a quarterly publication of Trinity Episcopal Church, Statesville, NC. The views and opinions that appear in this publication are not necessarily those of the church, vestry, diocese, or The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society.
© 2020 Trinity Episcopal Church.

CONTACT US

801 Henkel Road / PO Box 1103
Statesville, NC 28677-1103
(704) 872-6314 | Fax: (704) 872-6315
parishadmin@trinitysvl.org

Office Hours: Monday 8:30 - 3:00
Tuesday-Thursday 8:30 - 2:00

trinitysvl.org



In This Issue

FEATURES

- 3** **Racial Equity Institute**
Trinity's connection to REI
- 4** **Father Brad**
A different Easter
- 5** **Environmental Stewardship**
Trinity endeavors to make a difference
- 6** **Around the Parish**
Updates and Happenings
- 8** **Staffing Changes**
We say goodbye to three staff members
- 9** **Episcopal Relief and Development**
Addressing isolation in a pandemic world
- 10** **Sam Holt**
Sam reflects on music and Trinity
- 11** **Milestones**
We celebrate together



Submissions

We welcome your submissions, your ideas for articles, your photos, and your comments. Please send email to smarly03@gmail.com.

REV. BRAD MULLIS & RON SMITH

Racial Equity Institute

“There is a lot we did not learn in school”



Father Brad Mullis:

“All things being equal, race and socioeconomic status would not be a determining factor or predictor of life outcomes for any person. Ever”

The above is an abbreviated definition of racial equity. Not to be used interchangeably with racial diversity, racial equity is “the condition that would be achieved if one’s racial identity no longer predicted, in a statistical senses, how one fares.” Put in terms that we might have heard before, it is when we really are judged not by the color of our skin but by the content of our character.

For the past few years our Diocese has encouraged clergy and others to attend training offered by the Racial Equity Institute, a national group engaged in justice work. This training is in keeping with our diocese’s commitment to racial justice, one of Bishop Rodman’s [five stated priorities](#). In 2016 Chuck Collier, a parishioner at All Saints, Concord, and a retiree, was moved by the Spirit to become involved in this training and has been the engine for promoting it throughout the diocese. Chuck invited the superintendent of the Cabarrus County Schools to take part in equity training. The superintendent then not only encouraged many members of his administrative team to attend training, but also convinced ISS superintendent Brady Johnson to attend. Likewise, after attending, Johnson saw that his team attended training and began to

look for a way to bring REI training to other institutions of our county’s life.

Thus began Partnership for Equity Iredell. Organized by Brady Johnson and administrative staff member LaToya Caesar, PEI has hosted two two-day training sessions so far. Trinity Episcopal Church, one of the PEI partners, has hosted the trainings. The initial trainings have sought to attract community leaders who in turn will then invite others. So far more than eighty people in Iredell County have attended REI training, and more sessions are planned.



Ron Smith, Senior Warden:

I was asked several months ago to attend a racial equity training, lasting two full days, in Concord. When I first got the request, it was through an email from a person I did not know and had no real allure. Having a busy schedule, I first worried about how I could take two days away for

something that was not mandatory; and second, why do I need to learn about being decent to my fellow man (or woman). However, I later met with representatives of the Iredell School System (who were also attending) and was convinced to go.

To say this training changed my life would be an overstatement, but it did fundamentally change the way I look at non-white residents of our country. REI (Racial Equity Institute) is a company that provides training to various groups about the history of racism and discriminatory practices based on race in our country. They provide professional trainers that are well versed in both history, literature and practice. What they teach is that there is a lot we did not learn in school, and segments of our population have not had equal opportunities to succeed in this world. Their training details practices, both intentional and unintentional, that have been implemented by the government, business, law enforcement, finance, etc. that have limited opportunities for a large part of our population.

After our two days were completed, I took the hour-long ride back home to call one of my close friends. All we talked about were the things I had learned. One of the closing statements from the trainer

before we left was to not jump out and feel like you need to do something with this knowledge. Let it sit, let it simmer, and then determine what it is you need to do. I must admit that the group from Iredell that was in that November session decided almost immediately to begin talking about how we could bring this to our community. Particularly in Statesville, we have issues that are based on race and on poverty. Understanding some of the fundamental reasons behind this is important to helping to address those problems.

The group I mentioned is made up of leaders at the school system, Mitchell Community College, United Way, Gordon Hospice House, and other community leaders that committed themselves to getting this started in Iredell. The first training was held in January and we targeted other community leaders of influence, who could espouse the benefits of this effort and use their influence to bring more into the fold.

There have now been two trainings in Iredell, and three more are planned. An “alumni” group has been formed to push these efforts forward. Trinity Episcopal Church has been a big part in this effort. The use of the facility, and the support from Father Brad has made the effort much easier.

A Different Easter

“Hope is in the Easter acclamation “Alleluia, Christ is risen!”



Dear Friends,

When this edition of *Topics* was in the planning stage, life seemed pretty normal. We were soliciting accounts and pictures of events of the past quarter, and thinking ahead of items to draw everyone’s attention to in the coming season. You will find some of that information within these pages.

But then life changed. From whispers about a powerful virus in Wuhan to a dot on the US map to eleven cases in Washington State, things blew up. For me it is one of those “Where were you?” moments. The big uh-oh for me was on the evening of March 11 when I saw on the ticker at the bottom of the TV screen that the NBA had suspended its season. (I don’t claim that the NBA is that important, only that it’s huge and that this suspension was a huge deal.) Twenty-four hours later, I was living in a new reality including a two-week suspension of public worship. Now, of course, the suspension of worship is in effect at least through May 17.

I confess that on my first day at church after this change, I did a lot of sitting, looking from computer to phone to ceiling to floor won-

dering, “what in the world do I do?” “What will this mean for Trinity?” “What will this mean for church in general?” I mean, getting together is what we do. Scripture commends us “not to forsake the gathering of yourselves together.” The Spirit promises that “where two or three are gathered, I am in the midst of them.” We may not think much about it, but I suspect most of us have found a rhythm of community and solitude. Sure, being in the house is fine for a while, but we appreciate the companionship of others, especially our church family. (Companion means literally “one with whom we break bread” by the way.) And we appreciate that companionship all the more now that it is not possible right now, at least not in a physical sense.

Enter technology. Thanks to Zoom and Skype and Google Hangouts and all manner of innovations, we have been able to embark on a new frontier of community. We have been able to feel a part of worship through live-streaming on Sunday mornings. Wednesday Bible Study has met via Zoom. The Vestry will soon be able to conduct Zoom meetings. This morning I zoomed (that is now a verb) on a call with the

Bishops and 104 other clergy and congregational leaders. I am a neophyte with regard to much of this technology, but I find myself thankful for it these days. It gives me some connection with you. And I hope that it facilitates some sense of connection for you. From all I hear, that is happening.

But we all know that virtual life is not real life. It cannot replace being in another’s presence. We look for the day when we can once again share a handshake or an embrace, to see how big the kids have gotten, or to taste the bread and wine. That day will come – only none of us is sure when.

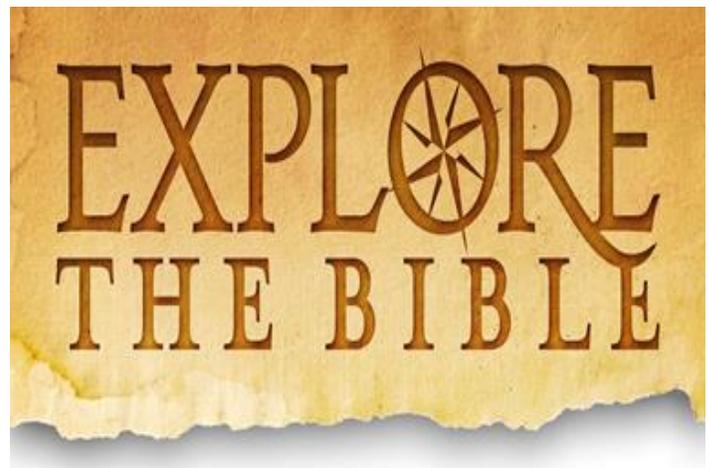
In the meantime – and that’s where we always live – please continue to take care of one another. I’m so grateful to see and hear of your kindnesses and thoughtful-

ness as I check in with folks. Hearing your voice on the phone can make the day of someone who is lonely and isolated. A grocery run could be vital for someone in a high-risk group who should not leave home. Please keep checking in with each other.

Although Easter will be different this year, far different from any most of us have ever experienced, our hope is in the Easter acclamation: “Alleluia! Christ is risen!” We may not be together to sing hymns, flower the cross, or look for eggs, but the resurrection is no less real. Live in that hope. Love in that reality. Happy Easter.

Brad+

Father Brad Mullis is the rector at Trinity Episcopal Church. He can be reached at rector@trinitysvl.org.



Exploring the Bible

For seven Sundays through March 8 a group numbering as many as twenty has gathered at the 9:30 hour to explore the Bible using a book titled *The Path: A Journey Through the Bible*, by Melody Wilson Shobe, published by Forward Movement. The aim of the series is to provide a way to grasp the overarching narrative of the Bible. While the Bible is a library of books of different genres spanning many centuries, there is still an arc to its sacred story. When we return to church we will resume our study and look forward to having you with us.

Environmental Stewardship

By Jane Getsinger



We are all challenged by the rapid growth in public engagement of all things environmental. At Trinity I will be trying to do more to educate myself, helping to continue with efforts already in the works, and passing information along to you.

We have two blue recycling containers located in the Memorial Garden area. We also have collection points in the Narthex (woven basket), Church Office (green tote), Choir Room (blue recycle bin), Hospitality Hall (blue bin), and the Parish Hall (red bin). These eventually get emptied into the blue single stream City of Statesville container near the Memorial Garden.



Use these containers for plastic drink bottles, plastic jars and jugs with #1 or #2 stamped on them, steel cans, newspapers, cartons, and cardboard. Boxes must be flattened.

We continue to collect aluminum cans, including aluminum cat food cans that have been rinsed. **Aluminum cans** go in the blue recycling bin marked "Aluminum Cans" that is beside the single stream container.

Steel cans go in the blue single stream City of Statesville container.

Proceeds from our recycling go to the Discretionary Fund.

... If folks want to contribute **aluminum** cat food cans, those rinsed cans go in the blue bin marked for Aluminum Cans. All other steel cans go in the single stream blue bin.



Doug Stobbe continues to collect aluminum cans and take them to Gordon Iron and Metal Company. Our efforts thru 2014 have raised in excess of \$1000.00. Through the 15th of February of this year, we have collected 65 pounds. Since the program started in 2001, we have recycled 7,883 pounds.

Our church is taking a look at the ways we can cut down on our use of plastic disposable products. Plastic is a threat to the environment as it does not break down. In September, during the International Coastal Cleanup, staggering amounts of cigarette butts, food wrappers, straws and stirrers, plastic knives and forks, plastic bags, and other plastic items were cleaned as debris on

our coasts. These items cause terrible harm to our sea life and oceans. The challenge is not only to dispose of these items properly, but to cut down on consumption when possible or re-use. At Trinity, we are being asked to bring a re-usable beverage container to our Community Food Sharing Events to help cut down on plastic use.

Earth Day is on the horizon... Wednesday, April 22. At Trinity, we are planning an outdoor event on Saturday April 25th. We will enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, games for the children, supper, and a bonfire on the Getsinger land from 4:00 to 7:00. If it rains, the event is canceled. There will be sign-

up sheets for food help – salads and appetizers. Barbecue and beverages will be provided.



[Editor's note: due to the temporary suspension of church events, our celebration of Earth Day has been cancelled.]

Ten Simple Things You Can Do to Help Protect the Earth

1. **Reduce, reuse, and recycle.** Cut down on what you throw away.
2. **Volunteer.** Volunteer for cleanups in your community.
3. **Educate.** When you further your own education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.
4. **Conserve water.** The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually end up in the ocean.
5. **Choose sustainable.** Learn how to make smart seafood choices.
6. **Shop wisely.** Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.
7. **Use long-lasting light bulbs.** Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
8. **Plant a tree.** Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change.
9. **Don't send chemicals into our waterways.**
10. **Drive less.** Walk or bike if possible.

Updates and Happenings

Trinity Youth By Elizabeth Rankin

The year is off to a great start for Trinity's youth. Our annual Souper Sunday fundraiser was a huge success, thanks in part to the generosity of the congregation. Lots of delicious soups were enjoyed by all who attended! Shrove Tuesday's pancake supper proved to be just as much fun. A record number of volunteers (both adult and youth) helped make the event one to remember!

Several of our events for the next few weeks have, like most of our other church events, been cancelled. How-

ever, we will soon be scheduling events throughout the rest of the year.

One of the main goals for this year is to begin to work on building a stronger youth program for Trinity. We have enlisted the help of the Diocese and will be scheduling some planning meetings this spring. Input from the youth and their parents is important for this ministry, so keep your eyes open for announcements of dates and please plan to attend! We look forward to your ideas and excitement for our program!

Scout Sunday By Jean Foster

On Sunday, February 9, we celebrated Scout Sunday, with 10 scouts participating. Scout Sunday is a time for our chartering organization (Trinity!) to get to know us and to see our scouts in action. February 8, 2020 was the 110th birthday of scouting!

Pack 720 was chartered by Trinity in October of 2018, so we are in our 2nd year. This year we have 36 active scouts and 12 leaders. Some of the events we've done this year include our 2nd annual derby car race, overnight camping at Lake Norman State Park, hiking at Rocky Face Mountain, and caroling at Maple Leaf Health Care during the holidays. We have a mix of

events that help the scouts earn their ranks – service projects, fundraising activities, and activities just for fun.

Our Pack meets once per month for den meetings where the scouts work on projects to earn the loops/pins towards their advancement. We also have a monthly pack outing. This month we'll be going to a rodeo!

The Cub Scout Oath is: "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the **Scout** Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." Everything we do

with the Scouts is in keeping with that promise.

After the services on Scout Sunday, the Pack hosted a reception for the congregation. After the reception, we celebrated our 2nd annual Blue & Gold Banquet in the Parish Hall.

The Pack thanks Trinity for your support!



New Robes By Jerrie Greene

In the Episcopal tradition, white robes (called albs) are worn by lay persons assisting the priest in the religious service or procession. At Trinity, we are accustomed to seeing acolytes and chalice bearers wearing the plain, white tunics with long sleeves with a rope cincture around the waist.

Ordained persons wear an alb and also a stole. The stole indicates that the person is ordained. This is the vestment we see our priest wear during the first part of the worship. He then adds a chasuble prior to the celebration of the Eucharist.

The historical tradition of wearing a plain white garment over everyday clothes, was stated by one source, that this is in accordance with directions from St. Jerome (341-420 CE). He directed that a "special suit of clean clothes" be worn for conducting services. Over the years, albs have been worn. During worship services, one reason that lay persons wear robes is to keep from distracting and/or

drawing attention to themselves as individuals during the procession, performing ceremonial duties, such as lighting altar candles or serving communion. Wearing the white robes, this special garment, set lay persons apart as they serve during the worship service.

White robes are used every time we have a worship service at Trinity. The long use and the necessity to have robes to accommodate various heights and sizes of children, youth, and adults who serve as acolytes and chalice bearers, must from time to time be replaced and/ or added. Recently, the vestry, recognizing the current need of adding several acolyte and a couple of new adult robes, approved spending up to \$1000 from the Memorial Fund for robe purchases.

This will enable our acolytes and chalice bearers to wear the white robes so fitting and traditional for our worship services.

Updates and Happenings (... continued)

Trinity Hosts MLK Community Worship

Each year Statesville honors the life and work of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a weekend of remembrances. Mitchell College hosts a tribute, a prayer breakfast is held at the civic center, and, the community gathers in worship on Sunday afternoon at a local church.

This year Trinity was selected to host the service. A packed house gathered to hear uplifting music from the MLK Inspirational Choir directed by Freddie Morrison. Around the music the congregation heard messages from Overseer Myrah Lykes and the Rev. Brad Mullis, Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, on the weekend's theme, "Beyond the Walls of Division." William Jones served as the master of ceremonies.



Around twenty members of Trinity were present, and the first-time attenders reported that they definitely planned to attend in the future.

trinitysvl.org

The new Trinity website is published — same web address, but a totally new site.

It's a work in progress, so any feedback would be appreciated. Also, as you will see when you visit the site, we're in great need of church photos — especially photos of people and events. If you have ones that you are willing to share, please send them to smalyo3@gmail.com.



Coming Soon!



A New Church Directory!

There are plans in the works for a new church directory. It's hard to believe, but it's been 6 years since the last one with photos was updated. Elizabeth Rankin is heading up this project, and it will be done in house.

At some point in the future, each household will be sent an email/letter with the directory information that's currently on record. Members will be asked to confirm or edit the directory information ... or indicate if there is information that they do NOT want in the directory.

Along with member information, the directory will have photographs of all who agree to that. Directory entries will be by family, so if you agree, we would like to have one photo of your entire family. Here's the fun part: you will have the option of submitting a photo. You can take it with your smart phone or digital camera. This will allow you to take as many shots as you like in order to get the perfect photo! For those who choose not to supply their own photo, we will schedule photo sessions at the church, during which we will do our best to get the perfect photo. It's impossible right now to predict when we'll offer the photo sessions, but we'll be sending more information on that when we can.

While everyone is at home complying with the Stay At Home restrictions, now might be a great time to work on getting that family photo. With spring, things are blooming and green, so you may want to take advantage of this by taking an outdoor photo. One piece of advice: it's more difficult to get a good photograph on days with bright sunlight, especially in the middle of the day. Instead, look for days with some cloud cover or, if it's a clear day, think about shooting your photograph during the "golden hour," the first hour after sunrise or the last hour before sunset. Light is softer and more even then. Also, please take a landscape (more horizontal than vertical) photo.

There's no rush; this is just an early heads up. But if you do take a photo that you would like included in the directory, you may send it at any time to Elizabeth Rankin at

elizabethrankin@roadrunner.com

or

733 St. Andrews Road, Statesville 28625

More details will follow.

Staffing Changes

By Brad Mullis

Covid-19 will certainly make 2020 a historic year. It has ushered in a new reality for us all for awhile. That new reality was already underway at Trinity as we have said good-bye to three staff members.

In February our deacon for the past eighteen months, the Rev. Henrietta Williams, retired from active ministry to have more time to visit her far-flung family. Approaching a milestone birthday, Henrietta says that “I have retired a few times before, but this time I mean it.” She plans to keep her home base in Statesville with son Berry and daughter-in-law Zoe, but is observing diocesan rules about withdrawing for a suitable period from a congregation she has served. At some time months in the future we hope to see Henrietta occupying a pew at Trinity.



Trinity’s organist/choirmaster for the past thirteen years, Sam Holt, has departed as well. Sam and his wife Deb, along with Sam’s mother Jean, are in the process of moving to New Bern, where Sam’s daughter Anna and her husband Brandon recently moved. Sam and Deb purchased a house large enough to accommodate Jean, who can no longer live independently.

We are grateful for Sam’s ministry and artistry among us, and wish him and his family the very best. Sam has no plans to take another position, but plans to supply at nearby churches on occasion.

Shortly after Sam notified the church of his pending move, parish administrator Cindy Reaper informed us that she too must depart. Her husband Lester has health issues which may soon require more than Cindy alone can handle, so they are moving to Zebulon, just east of Raleigh, to live with one of their sons. She will be in town until early June, and has kindly offered to help as she can until her move. We are grateful for her service, and wish her and Lester godspeed.



That’s a lot of change. Each of those staff members is making a move that they need to make for their families, but it’s a lot for us at one time.

Let me tell you where we are in managing this transition. Chuck Lindler has kindly stepped in as our interim organist/choirmaster until a new one is called. As many of you know,

Chuck held this position for many years and knows his way around Trinity and its musical traditions. We are grateful to have him and thank him for his kind willingness to help. A search team will be forming soon to call a new musician. The process will involve reviewing the job description, advertising, reviewing applications, and making visits to hear folks play and lead a service. With the current environment around disease prevention, I have no timetable to offer on this search, but please know we will move as expeditiously as possible.



The search for a parish administrator is a somewhat more cut-and-dried process and the one we will approach first. In fact, a call for applications through Kelly Services is already underway. Again, not knowing how the virus precautions will play out, nevertheless we hope to be able to fill this position in the near future. As needed, church treasurer Evie Caldwell will assist with handling offerings and writing of checks. I hope this is a helpful update. Again this is an additional layer of change and uncertainty atop what is already happening in the world. But we move faithfully forward, loving God and caring for another and the world God loves so much. We have good plans in place and will walk the next weeks together in the confidence that God has plans for us greater than we could ask or imagine.



New Testament and Old Testament stained glass windows in the sanctuary



Addressing Isolation and Quarantine in a Pandemic World

Social distancing and quarantine are life-saving measures that reduce the impacts of COVID-19, but they also pose risks as we adapt to them. On March 20, Episcopal Relief & Development gathered experts Rev. Dr. Pamela Cooper-White and Bishop Chilton Knudsen for a webinar to shed light on family violence, substance use, and mental health as they relate to the current pandemic. Episcopal Relief encourages us to continue to pray for one another and to be aware of the signs the people in our community may be exhibiting. Below is a summary of the webinar. You may listen to the entire broadcast at <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/on-the-topic-of-epidemics/>.

SUMMARY

During times of crisis and uncertainty, rates of violence, substance use, and mental health concerns tend to rise. Below are some resources to help you and those you serve stay safe and healthy during this challenging time.

- People tend to go through a range of emotions during a disaster which can look very similar to other types of grief processes. We call this the [Emotional Life Cycle of a Disaster](#).
- The [Life Cycle during COVID-19](#) will likely have a longer period of disillusionment given how long the quarantines and severe economic impacts are likely to last. Because of the length of this difficult period, it's important for church leaders to be aware of the kinds of impacts this acute stress can have including: substance abuse, family violence, mental health challenges and suicide.
- Work on **developing a safety plan** if you are worried about violence. Shelters and other essential operations are still open and follow guidelines to help keep people healthy. Everyone should be aware of what triggers their anger are and what actions you can take to diffuse it.
- It is possible in some locations to adapt **12-step meeting** so that they adhere to social distancing guidelines (no more than 10 people, least six feet apart, ideally outdoors), but there are also many online options. If you have closed meetings temporarily at your site, be sure to leave signs on your doors letting people know how they can get in touch with the local Central Service Office to find alternative locations/methods of connecting.
- Now is the time to research your **local service providers**. Which ones are still open? Which mental health providers have telemedicine options?
- **Risk factors for suicide:** 1. Do they have a plan? 2. Is there a history of attempt or relative who has died by suicide? 3. Do they have access to means? If you do not feel comfortable assessing risk for suicide, this is a good to reach out to a colleague to refresh those skills.
- Everyone, even those without prior histories of substance abuse, family violence or mental health conditions, may very well be struggling with those issues now or in the coming

weeks. **Please ask everyone about their substance use, family relationships, and mental wellness in your pastoral check-in calls.** This will help normalize that these issues might emerge and that their church community is a safe place to bring them.

- Caregivers will likely experience **symptoms of secondary traumatic stress**. Try to practice self care and set boundaries around your exposure to grief and heartbreak. This is going to last for a long time so please care for yourself knowing that this is a marathon and not a sprint.
- Please visit [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's](#), [National Alliance on Mental Illness's](#), and [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's](#) websites for additional mental health and COVID-19 content.

In addition to local organizations, please reach out to these organizations. You can call for yourself or because you are concerned about someone else.

- Caregivers National Domestic Violence Hotline **1-800-799-7233**
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Helpline **1-800-662-4357**
- AA Meeting Locator **1-844-334-6862**
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline **1-800-273-8255**
- [Other Crisis Resources](#)

Episcopal Relief has additional information and updated on COVID-19 at their [website](#), on Facebook: [@EpiscopalRelief](#), and on Twitter: [@EpiscopalRelief](#).

Keep in Mind
... Save the Date



Red Cross Blood Drive
Late June
(exact date TBD)



Sam Holt

An Interview with Sam on February 28, 2020

By Jenneffer Sixkiller

With photos from Sam's Reception on March 8



JS: Have you always been interested in music and worship? What is your experience in these areas?

SH: My interest in the organ began when I was a teenager in Raleigh. Early every Sunday morning, a local radio station featured organ music from Edenton Street United Methodist Church. I was fascinated by the beautiful rich, sonorous sounds coming from that huge instrument. As a student at N.C. State University, I was able to take elective classes in organ at nearby Meredith College. Fortunately for me, my teachers were some of the best to be found and their enthusiasm for the organ and organ literature have had a lasting effect on me. After graduating from NCSU, I began teaching high school English in Raleigh, but I also began playing the organ for church in various places of worship in the Raleigh area. Debbie and I were married in 1977 and became members at Christ Church where Dr. David Lynch was organist. His music was powerfully exciting and a testament to his faith. (When he retired several years ago, he became a deacon and currently serves at Brad's former parish in Raleigh).



Catherine Richie Miller became my organ teacher after graduating from college. I met her for a lesson every Saturday morning at 7:00am at White Memorial Presbyterian Church. She was an excellent organ teacher and mentor whom I hold in the highest esteem. My love for the organ and in particular church music has only grown through the years. I still continue to

study with an organ teacher because there still so much to learn!

JS: What was your role in the creation of the Trinity Artist Series?

SH: Anne Rhyne and I talked years ago about an artist series at Trinity. Brad was excited about the idea as well. I met James Hogan for lunch one day in Davidson to solicit his perspective and support. Shortly after that a committee was formed which included Jane Getsinger and Nick Harknett. My role was that of artists coordinator- I found musicians and concert ideas to recommend to the committee. I had the fun part!

JS: What are your other interests?

SH: I have many other interests other than music. Being an English teacher, I love to read of course. During the spring and summer I spend much of the days working in the yard creating perennial beds and planting trees and shrubs (it's amazing how much you can plant in an acre front yard). I also love to cook

and try out new recipes. Kitchen machines have always been my weakness – I bought a pasta machine when Debbie and I were first married which she felt was a waste of money (“You can’t make pasta!”). My goal was to prove her wrong and I have been making pasta every since!!!

JS: Is there anything else you'd like to share?

SH: My thirteen years at Trinity have been a blessing and gift to me on so many levels. Brad and the choir have supported me in whatever direction my interests and passions have led me regarding music for worship. It is their support and kindness concerning my creative energies that mean a great deal to me; moreover, their friendship is what I cherish most!



I will miss sitting at the organ at Trinity each Sunday morning! Thank you for allowing me to serve as you organist/music director!



Father Brad presents Sam with a parting appreciation gift at Sam's reception on March 8.

Milestones

Birthdays

APRIL

- 4/1 Rich Griggs
- 4/2 Michael Coltham, Vicki Holland
- 4/3 Julia Holland
- 4/4 Ellyn Mullis, Addison Tsumas
- 4/5 Tuck Criswell, Tanner Marko
- 4/8 Jeff Holland
- 4/12 Bill Holland, Natalie Marsh, Ron Smith
- 4/14 Adana Davis
- 4/19 Philip Quarantiello, Elizabeth Sheeks
- 4/20 Barbara Crouch, Buddy Johnson
- 4/21 John Babilon, Patrick Booker, Bill Leach
- 4/24 Neal Wilfong
- 4/27 Scott Rikard
- 4/28 Madison Peters
- 4/29 Pat Bosshart

MAY

- 5/4 David Landry
- 5/8 Megan Davis
- 5/9 Parker Gilliam, Danette Watson
- 5/10 Joy Allison, Charles Davis
- 5/14 Reay Griggs
- 5/15 Trudy Goodman, Larry Trott
- 5/16 Keith Crouch
- 5/17 Rae Marie Clark, Chantres Harrison, Ava Harwell, Margaret Johnson, Ansley Tsumas
- 5/18 Sherry Flowe
- 5/19 Martha Neely, Derek Wilson
- 5/21 Berry Williams
- 5/23 Aston Johnson, Jackie Warren
- 5/24 Locke Allison, Sarah Borders
- 5/25 Henrietta Williams
- 5/26 Will Fanjoy, Rob Hites, Susan Quarantiello, Monica Trott, Jim Vacca
- 5/27 Paul Tsumas
- 5/29 Nora Davis
- 5/30 Bill Balatow, Carter Payne, Deb Rutledge-Holt, Julia Scott

JUNE

- 6/1 Charity Graves
- 6/2 Emma Peters
- 6/3 Ia Lewis
- 6/4 David Alexander
- 6/6 Ellison Johnson, Charlie Mullis
- 6/7 Tessa Gottholm, Charles Harwell, Blair Warren
- 6/8 Claire Balatow, Chuck Dockery, Walter Patterson, Maribeth Peters
- 6/11 Jonas Dearman, Anne Johnson
- 6/12 Lynn Lawton
- 6/13 Jason Gilliam, Lynda Sloan
- 6/14 Bruce Cardwell
- 6/17 Sarah Shoobridge
- 6/18 Suzy Barile, Ryan Fox
- 6/23 Sarah Alexander, Hawkson Rikard
- 6/24 Katherine Smith
- 6/27 Brad Mullis
- 6/28 Reid Balatow, Dee Ham
- 6/30 Lillian Rutter

JULY

- 7/1 Lula Cheatham, Mary Alice Rutter
- 7/3 Reed Hassler
- 7/6 Michael Reimann
- 7/7 Tessica Martin, Page Rankin
- 7/10 Thomas Fanjoy, Usoa Sixkiller-Criswell
- 7/11 Buchanan Deter
- 7/14 Laura Peters, Brent Warren
- 7/16 John Deter, Re Johnston
- 7/18 Sandra Landry, Lisa McBroom
- 7/20 Karalee Rikard
- 7/21 Malachi Hart, Lori Martin, Meredith Smith, Linda Thornton
- 7/23 Michaela Quarantiello, James Shoobridge
- 7/24 Benjamin Hites
- 7/25 Patterson Beard
- 7/26 Martha Jennings Rutter
- 7/27 Jan Ambrose
- 7/28 Nick Harknett, Tammy Neely
- 7/29 Louisa Clendenin
- 7/30 Angela Holland

Anniversaries

APRIL

- 4/3 Sam and Judy McDowell
- 4/11 Bill and Julia Holland
- 4/12 Joe and Laura Peters
- 4/19 Richard & Jean Tatum
- 4/27 Phil and Mary Dulin

MAY

- 5/4 Ray & Leslie Lackey
- 5/11 Chuck and Marcia Lindler
- 5/18 Andy and Cindy Booker
- 5/22 Elliott and Heather Harwell
- 5/27 Kirk & Amy Lawton
- 5/28 Walter and Denise Fox
- 5/31 Jason and Renee Gilliam

JUNE

- 6/3 David and Ashley Alexander
- 6/7 Bill and Evie Caldwell
- 6/9 Paul and Destiny Tsumas
- 6/12 Joe and Sally Furr
- 6/15 Jerry and Ella Gehling
- 6/26 Scott and Elizabeth Rankin
- 6/26 Jim and Anne Rhyne
- 6/27 Bud and Lori Martin

JULY

- 7/2 Sonny and Page Rankin
- 7/6 Art and Lynne Werner
- 7/24 Richard and Reay Griggs
- 7/25 Michael and Betty Coltham
- 7/26 Bruce and Susan Cardwell

Please send any obituaries or birth notices to parishadmin@trinitysvl.org for inclusion in Topics. Similarly, if you spot any errors, please send those to the same email address.



Trinity  Episcopal

P.O. Box 1103 Statesville, NC 28687
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

