

*the*

MAY/JUNE 2018

# BANNER

CATCHING

# FIRE



*We Didn't Start the Fire | In Memoriam | 40th Annual Chicken BBQ*

11 North Monroe Avenue • Wenonah, NJ 08090 • [www.holytrinitywenonah.org](http://www.holytrinitywenonah.org)



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# New Sunday Series

*Join us for the final installment of the three part adult education course, Come & See.*

FINAL INSTALLMENT OF COME & SEE



## CLOTHED IN POWER: THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE EARLY CHURCH

9:00 AM SUNDAYS

MAY 20-JUNE 17 IN THE PARISH HALL

We've walked with Jesus to the cross, celebrated his resurrection, and investigated his appearances to the disciples. But when Jesus ascends, now what? In this five-week study, we'll look at the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the ministry and mission it inspired. All are welcome!

May 20	Acts 1: The Waiting Game
May 27	Pentecost: Delivery Incoming
June 3	Going Out: Mission of the Church (Pt. 1)
June 10	Going Out: Mission of the Church (Pt. 2)
June 17	Bringing it All Together

*June 17 is our final Sunday School Class for the spring.  
Sunday School will resume September 16, 2018 at 9 AM.*

## IMPORTANT NOTE:

*Sunday School for All Ages will break for the summer.*

*The final Sunday School Sunday will take place  
June 17, 2018.*

*Sunday School for All Ages will return in September of 2018.*

# “We Didn’t Start the Fire

*/ It was always burning / since the world’s been turning.”*

Dear Holy Trinity,

If you haven’t heard Billy Joel’s 1989 hit song “We Didn’t Start the Fire,” stop reading this and go give it a listen. I can’t say it’s the best song I’ve ever heard—it’s pretty terrible—but its enthusiasm is contagious.

“We didn’t start the fire / it was always burning /since the world’s been turning.”

For Billy Joel, in reflecting on the previous 50 years of his life, he realizes that there are bigger forces at play than him and his piano. The ball started rolling on all of these things—political, cultural, societal—years before Joel was born. (Really, before any of us was born.)

Without knowing it, Joel gives us a clear image of what biblical scholars call heilsgeschichte or “salvation history.” As Christians, we believe that there is a story that starts with the creation of the universe when God saw fit to create everything. We also believe that the story goes past its natural end, to a greater reality that has been promised but not yet seen, where every tear will be wiped away and death and dying will be no more.

We didn’t start the fire—God did—and it will burn and spread until God sees fit to reconcile all things to himself.

It seems appropriate then that the celebration of the Easter Season begins and ends with fire. We begin

## FROM THE **RECTOR**



The Rev. Ben Maddison  
Rector



*The cover of Billy Joel’s 1989 single “We Didn’t Start the Fire”*

the season with the lighting of the New Flame at the Easter Vigil—the flame used to light the Paschal candle and remind everyone that Christ is risen from the dead. The season ends with the Feast of Pentecost, the day we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit among the disciples as tongues of fire, the birthday of the church and the beginning of our work to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth.

Growing up we used to sing this very campy, very terrible song in church (on that won’t be found in our hymnal). It went like this:

It only takes a spark / To get the fire going / And soon all those around / Can warm up in its glowing / That’s how it is with God’s love / Once you’ve experienced it / You spread His love / To ev’ryone / You want to pass it on.

As campy as “We Didn’t Start the Fire” and “Pass It On” may be, they position us well to understand and embrace the Good News of Pentecost and the season following it.

First, Pentecost is a reminder that God starts, completes, and ends the great story of salvation history. Like Billy Joel’s fire, it’s been burning long before us, will burn long after us, and has an unstoppable and already accomplished terminus—the reconciliation of the world to God through all who believe. This should come as a huge relief: there’s no work to be done, no saving to commence, no fire

to start. It’s already there, and you’ve been given it like Prometheus.

Second, Pentecost captures the beauty and power of participating in God’s already accomplished reconciliation of everything. It only takes a spark—provided in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ—to get the fire going. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are invited to participate in that spreading wildfire—that untamable configuration of grace and love.

So, whether you are listening to Billy Joel or singing your heart out to some modern church tunes, remember...

You have been created by God—the same God who set in motion the fires of Creation

You have been saved through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ—the perpetual sign and symbol that the Light cannot be snuffed out

You have been empowered by the Holy Spirit—the fire of God placed in your heart and empowering you to participate in God’s saving work in the world.

We are a people catching fire, and the only thing we can do is spread it.

In Christ,

**\$12/ADULT**  
**\$6/CHILD**



*Holy Trinity's*

**CHICKEN BAR-B-Q**

SINCE 1978

*Celebrating  
40 years of  
Chicken  
BBQ!*

**JUNE 2**  
**WALK-IN'S WELCOME**

**4 PM - 7 PM**  
**ORDER ONLINE**  
**[BIT.LY/CHICKENBBQ39](http://BIT.LY/CHICKENBBQ39)**

# It's Back, Baby!

Celebrating a 40-year Holy Trinity tradition.

*By Gar Miller*

Yes, Virginia, there will be a chicken barbecue—for the 40<sup>th</sup> consecutive year—at Holy Trinity this year.

Thanks to Carla Henderson, who has volunteered for the third consecutive year to serve as committee chair, the event will take place on the usual first Saturday of June. Once again, the fund-raiser will only offer take-out meals, priced at the same \$12 for adults and \$6 (half portions) for children.

Committee members to date include Lisa Carlamere, Gary Henderson, Gar Miller, Nancy Garvin and Joanne Hutchison. Other volunteers are invited to join.

Tickets and sign-up boards will be available on Sunday, May 13 – the date of the all-church brunch.

There will be some changes to the normal routine. For one, most of the ingredients will be purchased. Other than cakes for the dessert table, parishioners will not be asked to contribute beans, bacon, brown sugar, etc. as they have in the past. The committee recognized that this has been a problem and will be purchasing those items. However, anyone interested in contributing money to help defray those costs is encouraged to do so.

Letters and tickets will be distributed beginning May 6 to everyone at church, and later through the mail. For any church goers who were not involved in past Chicken Barbecues, we will not give you tickets (regular members receive the same amount of tickets as they have sold in the past.) If you didn't want tickets – or didn't sell tickets – you will not be asked to buy any. We realize that some folks just do not like the meals (although we generally do have a more than 75 percent participation rate at the church.)

Those people who have been visiting our church in recent weeks can get involved in a number of ways: by buying and selling tickets, signing up to help make beans, salad, cut cakes, work on the take-out lines, clean up after the event is finished, etc. There will be boards to sign, and extra tickets will be available at each of the services. Anyone with questions can email me at [garland4@comcast.net](mailto:garland4@comcast.net). This is a great way to experience the camaraderie of the church and get to know your fellow parishioners.

The barbecue yard signs have been updated and will be available for placement at the beginning of May.

Let's pull together for one more year of fellowship and fund-raising!



# I Believe the Children are Our Future

Getting back to what really matters—ministry to and for kids.

One of the most amazing parts of Holy Trinity are our kids. They participate in all aspects of the life of the church; from reading, acolyting, crucifering, LEMing, to their musical and artistic ability, our kids play a huge part in church on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

The truth is, they should! Children are the future of the church—the Christians who will participate in the work and mission of Christ long after we are gone. They are *literally* the future.

In the past year, as the church adjusted to its new rector, some of the old staples for children have gone away and others have been evaluated and changed. We are excited to announce some upcoming changes that we hope will put children and family ministry back into the center of Sunday worship and the life of the church.

## FAMILY SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S SERMON

One of the first things to change during the transition was the Family Service on the first Sunday of each month. Several of the Sunday fell on holidays and our new rector was interested in preaching for the whole congregation. So children's sermons were sidelined.

However, at the beginning of the year, Ben began to hear from folks that they missed the children's sermons and the unique family service at the beginning of each month. Moreover, the kids missed sermons that were "just for them."

Hearing these suggestions, Ben has decided to bring back the Family Service with Children's Sermon starting in June. There will be a sermon to engage the kids (and hopefully the adults) and bring them back into the center of our work and mission.

***The Family Service with Children's Sermon will return June 3, 2018 and continue on the first Sunday of each month going forward.***

## NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM: SPARK HOUSE

One of the other children's ministries that is so important to the life of the church is children's Sunday School. Ever since the formation of Holy Trinity, Children's Sunday School is an essential component



of the formation of our children. From Pre-K through High School, Holy Trinity is committed to teaching and forming our children into the Christian leaders and disciples of the future.

In an effort to energize our Sunday School program (for All Ages), we moved Sunday School to the hour between the two services, offering Christian formation for everyone! In an effort to continue and expand our commitment to life-long Christian formation, we have begun looking at a new curriculum for our elementary school kids.

The front runner is Sparkhouse, put out by Augsburg Fortress, the ELCA's formation and publishing wing. It is lectionary based, theologically sound, relevant, and engaging to young people.

We are excited about the change in curriculum. We have also had new volunteers offer to assist with Sunday School in the Fall. We could not provide these quality opportunities for formation for children without the hard-work and dedication of our volunteer teachers. They put their heart and soul into this work, and connecting children to a life of faith is deeply important to them. They understand the importance of Christian education for children, and believe deeply that kids are the life and future of the church.

Thank you to all those who volunteer their time and effort to teach and form our children. Your work is invaluable and has a lasting impact on these kids and the world. THANK YOU.

***Sunday School for All Ages (and especially children) continues at 9 AM in the education wing. Sunday School will break for Summer on June 17 and will return—with the new curriculum and volunteers—in September of 2018.***

# In Memoriam

## Lee Rodriguez: Friend, Member, Benefactor

By Gar Miller

When Basilides (Lee) Rodriguez suddenly passed away in February, he left those of us who knew him with a lot of pleasant memories.

As many of you know, Lee grew up in a family of 15 in San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico, in a one-story home with no indoor bathroom. He left for the U.S. after high school and worked as a cook and later a handyman in the South Jersey area. In 1971, he married Margaret Callahan, then a member of St. Barnabas, and immediately became involved with the church.

Lee remained a faithful parishioner until his death, and we will remember him always:

The sense of humor and kindness he displayed every Sunday morning at the early service as he passed the plate and raised and lowered the communion rail – jobs that he felt called to do.

His generosity in supporting the church, as well as treating anyone willing to join him for a breakfast, lunch, or even dinner.

His willingness to wash dishes and do any behind the scenes work that was needed – but never to get out front and have his picture taken.

Lee also left us with something more than fond memories: he left us his home at 30 Berkley Rd. in Mantua.

As executor of Lee's estate—a job I willingly accepted some five years ago even though Lee



*Basilides "Lee" Rodriguez, 1932-2018*

still had 11 living brothers and sisters scattered around the U.S. and his native Puerto Rico—I followed his wishes that his house and its belongings be left to Holy Trinity.

Less than two months after Lee's death, the sale of that house has been completed. It represents by far the largest financial gift in the history of Holy Trinity.

Over the next few months, we will look at various options for the use of the money, including investing some of it to replace funds used to fix up the Rectory. Efforts will be made to use some of the money to improve Holy Trinity in a manner that pays tribute to Lee's nearly 50 years of service to this church and to St. Barnabas in Mantua.

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Lee. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

*Prayer of Commendation, BCP p. 483*

### Were you unable to make Lee's service?

You can find Gar's tribute to Lee and Ben's sermon at the links below:

**Gar's Tribute**

[bit.ly/LeeRTribute](http://bit.ly/LeeRTribute)

**Ben's Sermon**

[bit.ly/LeeRSermon](http://bit.ly/LeeRSermon)

# Ministry Updates

News and important information for ministries important to you.

## Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

### ECW News

Ah, spring has finally arrived. Along with the weather, we have a lot more to be thankful for: all those who helped us stay busy during the long winter with the monthly soup sales, Blankets and Tools outreach, UTO spring in-gathering, and the Yard Sale. Proceeds from these events will go a long way toward spreading God's love around the world – literally!

May is an important month for the ECW, as the Diocesan Annual Meeting and UTO in-gathering will be held on Sat., May 19 at Grace-St. Paul's in Merchantville. Please see or call Nancy Garvin (609-405-5512) or Joanne Hutchison (856-423-5626) for more information.

May will also include one more fundraiser, repeated from last year, as it seemed like everyone really enjoyed it, namely lunch or

dinner at the Landmark Restaurant in Glassboro. The date for this event will be May 15, 2018 from lunch through dinner. The coupons are available in the narthex and online.

Our next regular meeting will be at 7:00 on the usual second Monday, May 14th. Join us in the Parish Hall, where we haven't lost our ability to include good fellowship while taking care of business in less than an hour. And new faces, ideas and opinions are so very much appreciated!

### WAWA COUPONS FUNDRAISER

Do you need a quick meal during this busy season? Are you looking for small gifts for friends? Wawa coupons fit the bill. They are \$4 each for a shortie hoagie or a sandwich. See Jackie Gould after the 8 AM service or Colleen Green after the 10 AM service.



**JUNE 27**

End of  
School  
Swim & BBQ

**JULY 20-21**

Summer  
Lock-In  
6 PM to 9 AM

**AUGUST 24**

A Trip to the  
Drive-In



# Outreach Updates

Find ways to love your neighbor, volunteer with friends, and share the gift of God's grace with the world.



## Upcoming KOH Opportunities

Load Cars	5/11, 6/8	8:45 AM
Distribution	5/12, 6/9	9:00 AM

KOH is an outreach of love and compassion, providing food and school supplies to as many as 150 families in need. On Friday morning, the food is delivered; on Saturday, the food is packed and distributed. Come volunteer with us!

***Interested in helping? Drop off non-perishable food each month for KOH or help distribute food on the second Saturday of the month!***



## Family Promise of Gloucester County

Family Promise of Gloucester County (FPGC), formerly IHN, is a national program that aids families experiencing homelessness. If you would like to get connected to IHN, or find out ways you can volunteer, email Sean Garvin at [ilvmaine@comcast.net](mailto:ilvmaine@comcast.net).

The next several weeks for Family Promise at Holy Trinity will be:

**May 13-19**  
**August 19-25**  
**December 9-15**

*We are always in need of Shoprite/Acme gift cards, if you are looking for another way to help!*

## OUTREACH NEWS

### KOH SEEKS TO EXPAND PROGRAMS

*By Gar Miller*

As you know, Kitchen of Hope is an outreach ministry of St. Thomas in Glassboro, supported by Holy Trinity, other churches and community volunteers that provides free food to needy families on a continuing basis.

While we at Holy Trinity are most familiar with the monthly food give-aways to more than 100 people – helping an estimated 400 family members – we are less familiar with another arm of KOH that delivers nutritionally balanced meals weekly to 40 children at the Rodgers Elementary School in Glassboro. These meals, called Kitzpacks, sustain them on the weekends when they do not receive school breakfasts and lunches, and there is insufficient food in their homes.

The Trustees of KOH are committed not only to continuing the monthly food give-aways to adults, but to expanding the weekend food support program – which in 2017 totaled 1513 meal packages – to more than 100 additional children at the Bowe Elementary and Glassboro Intermediate schools. As a Trustee, I am very proud of what the organization does, but because of the growing number of food insecure children in the area, I am painfully aware that we need to do even more.

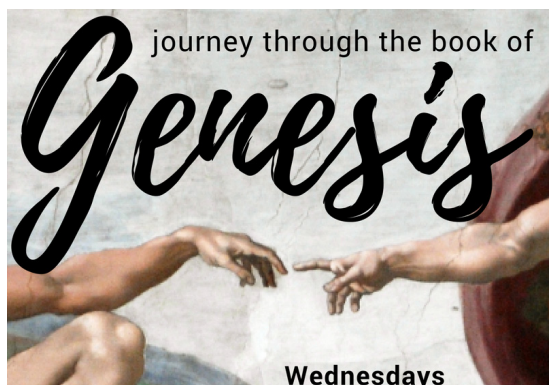
To accomplish this, I need some help. Our annual budget to fund these two important programs is approximately \$10,000 – equally divided – and while we have some sources of income, we do not have enough. I am appealing to you to join me in making a pledge – payable in any increments – to support our mission. My personal goal for Holy Trinity during this year is \$3,000 – 30 percent of the organization's target. I am pleased to say that we have already obtained pledges totaling \$1000. All donations will be acknowledged and an IRS tax exempt number certification will be provided.

Please contact Gar Miller for more information.



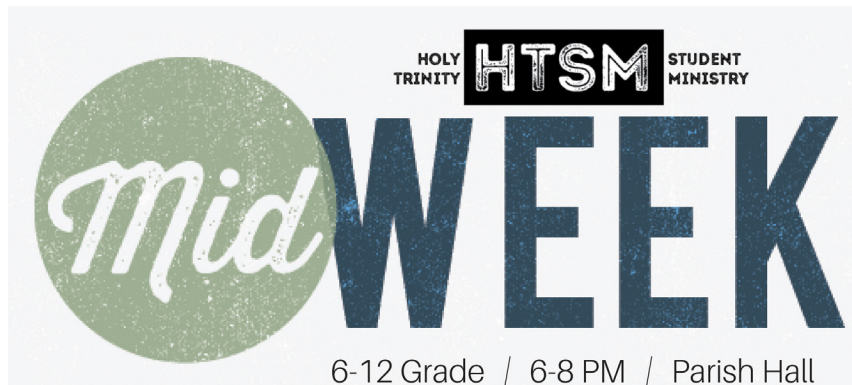
# Wednesdays at Holy Trinity

Study and worship that feeds the mind and soul.



## RECTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: GENESIS 10:15 AM in the Parish Hall

Interested in the Bible but don't know where to start? Our rector, Ben Maddison, will be teaching through the book of Genesis. We will dive deeply into the words, history, and meaning of the text, and we might also have a little fun! Everyone is welcome.



## HTSM: MIDWEEK 6 PM in the Parish Hall

Join the HTSM youth group for MIDWEEK! Food. Fellowship. Formation. Fun. It's a time to hang out, build friendships, and talk about faith. It's a casual meeting with dinner generously provided by volunteers. It meets in the Parish Hall.

**Midweek Returns: May 23 & June 13**

*The Rector's Bible Study and Midweek will break for the Summer.  
The last day for both events will be **June 13, 2018**.*

*Wednesday Eucharist will continue at its normal time during the summer.*

***The Rector's Bible Study & Midweek will return in September of 2018.***

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FROM MARCH 2018

### Operational

Checking	\$ 26,164.85
Gift Card	\$ 1,479.43
	<u>\$ 27,644.28</u>

### Non Operational

Memorial	\$ 3,349.30
Youth Fund	\$ 820.00
	<u>\$ 4,169.30</u>

### Investments

DIT	\$142,096.97
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### Operational YTD Totals

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$41,540.50	\$35,199.72	-\$ 6,421.78
Expenses	\$41,540.50	\$43,635.21	-\$ 2,094.71
Net Difference	\$ 0.00	-\$ 8,435.49	-\$ 8,516.49

<b>Total Assets</b>	\$174,886.84
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	-\$ 42,000.00 (Mortgage)



# June Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<div>8am - Rite I</div> <div>10am - Rite II</div> <div>11:30am - Coffee</div>	<div>Office Closed</div> <div>4</div>	<div>8am - Morning</div> <div>5:15pm - Evening</div> <div>5</div>	<div>10:15am - Rector's</div> <div>11:30am - Eucharist</div> <div>6</div>	<div>7:30pm - Adult Choir</div> <div>7</div>	<div>8:30pm - AA</div> <div>8</div>	<div>Chicken Bar-B-Q</div> <div>4pm - Chicken Bar-B-Q</div> <div>9</div>
<div>8am - Rite I</div> <div>10am - Rite II</div> <div>11:30am - Coffee</div>	<div>Office Closed</div> <div>7pm - ECW Meeting</div> <div>11</div>	<div>8am - Morning</div> <div>5:15pm - Evening</div> <div>12</div>	<div>10:15am - Rector's</div> <div>11:30am - Eucharist</div> <div>6pm - HTSM Mid-Week</div> <div>13</div>	<div>7:30pm - Adult Choir</div> <div>14</div>	<div>8:30pm - AA</div> <div>15</div>	<div>16</div>
<div>Senior Sunday</div> <div>8am - Rite I</div> <div>10am - Rite II</div> <div>11:30am - Coffee</div>	<div>Office Closed</div> <div>18</div>	<div>8am - Morning</div> <div>5:15pm - Evening</div> <div>6:30pm - Vestry</div> <div>19</div>	<div>Last Day of School</div> <div>11:30am - Eucharist</div> <div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>Submission for Banner</div> <div>8:30pm - AA</div> <div>22</div>	<div>23</div>
<div>Sunday School Break</div> <div>8am - Rite I</div> <div>10am - Rite II</div> <div>11:30am - Coffee</div>	<div>Office Closed</div> <div>25</div>	<div>8am - Morning</div> <div>8:30am - Liturgy</div> <div>5:15pm - Evening</div> <div>6:30pm - Lectors'</div> <div>26</div>	<div>11:30am - Eucharist</div> <div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>8:30pm - AA</div> <div>29</div>	<div>30</div>

## IMPORTANT DATES

6/2	4:00 p	40th Annual Chicken Barbecue, Parish Hall
6/3	10:00 a	Family Service w/ Children's Sermon, Church
6/11	7:00 p	ECW Meeting, Parish Hall
6/13	10:15 a	Last Rector's Bible Study (Breaks for Summer), Parish Hall
6/13	6:00 p	Last HTSM: Midweek (See Summer Schedule), Parish Hall
6/17	9:00 a	Last Sunday School of Spring, Edu. Wing & Parish Hall
6/17	10:00 a	Senior Sunday (Honoring HS Seniors), Church
6/19	6:30 p	Vestry, Parish Hall
6/23	9:00 p	Sunday School Breaks for Summer (Returns Sept.)
6/26	6:30 p	Lectors Meeting (Breaks for Summer), Parish Hall
6/27	5:00 p	HTSM Summer Program: Swimming & BBQ (TBD)

## NEXT MONTHS

76	10:00 a	Family Service w/ Children's Sermon, Church
7/17	6:30 p	Vestry (Breaks Till September), Parish Hall
7/20	7:00 p	HTSM Summer Program: ALL NIGHTER
7/24	12:00 p	Rutgers Reading Programs Begins, Parish Hall
8/19-25		Family Promise of Gloucester County
8/24	6:00 p	HTSM Summer Program: Drive-In Movie
8/25	6:00 p	Rutgers Reading Program Ends, Parish Hall
8/28	6:30 p	Lectors Meeting, Parish Hall





# HOLY TRINITY

*Episcopal Church*

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[www.holytrinitywenonah.org](http://www.holytrinitywenonah.org)

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## A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY

### HOLY TRINITY'S STAFF

The Rev. Benjamin B. Maddison  
*Rector*  
[rector@holytrinitywenonah.org](mailto:rector@holytrinitywenonah.org)

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*Parish Administrator*  
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Fran Szczepanski  
*Sexton*

Margie MacWilliams  
*Director of Music*

The Rt. Rev. William  
"Chip" Stokes  
*XII Bishop of New Jersey*



### HOLY TRINITY'S VESTRY

Steve LoCastro, Jr.  
*Senior Warden*

Carl Carlamere  
*Junior Warden*

Mark Sienkiewicz  
*Treasurer*

Corrin Sellen  
*Clerk*

Tina Sheehan

Susan Cassidy

Colleen Green

Alice Nowak

Cheryl DeVoy

Nancy Tinkham

*Holy Trinity is a diverse community, proclaiming the  
Good News of God's grace to everyone.*

### HOLY TRINITY'S SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I | 9:00 AM Sunday School | 10:00 AM Choral Eucharist, Rite II