

The Banner

The Observance of a Holy Lent



Acolytes Emily Provine

Prayer Chain Rhoda Miller 468-6658

Altar Guild Joanne Hutchison 423-5826

Lectors Melissa Semmes-Thorne 223-1992

Christian Education Susan Cassidy 468-4473

ECW Phyllis Joslin 468-3712

Music Margie MacWilliams 468-6664

Prayer Shawl Ministry Jane Whittinghill 256-8403

Men's Breakfast Gary Henderson 832-0278 Paul Eldridge 468-7632

The Banner Gar Miller 468-6658 Jackie Gould 464-0837

IHN Sean Garvin 609-405-5513



March 1 starts our annual pilgrimage through the season of Lent. Lent is a time of preparation, contemplation, and penitence in preparation for Easter. Traditionally, Lent was the time that new Christians would receive education and preparation for baptism and confirmation. It was also a time to increase piety through "giving-up" a vice or indulgence or "takingon" a new spiritual discipline or practice. Our liturgy during Lent changes to reflect the change in liturgical season. For example, we will remove all the "alleluias" from the service. We will replace the flowers on the altar with more modest and somber greenery. I will be wearing different, more traditional vestments during Lent. We will change the Sanctus and Fraction Anthem, and we will do a lot more kneeling to get us in a posture of penitence. We will also be using the "Penitential Order" on occasion to remind us of our need for and dependence on God. The

Lenten themes of preparation, penitence, and contemplation will flow through the imagery of the liturgy, and I hope contributes to your observance of a holy Lent.

This year, I invite you to think of Lent in a new way. Each year has a cycle, beginning with Advent and ending with Christ the King. Lent is special because it prepares us for Holy Week; it is the time we set aside, each year, to relive—to participate again — in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I'll talk about that more in April, but for now, I want to leave you with this: I invite you to prepare for that special week this Lent. We will offer you classes, spiritual practices, and support as you prepare, like the Christians of old, for Holy Week. Our Lent's offerings will include:

Wednesday Lenten Lunch Study – Hosted by the Woodbury Heights/Wenonah/ Mantua Ministerium, this fiveweek study will invite attendees down the path of Holy Week. Each week, during a soup lunch, you will be invited to visit the key places along the road to Calvary, from the Upper Room to the Via Dolorosa. Each week will be hosted at a different parish. See the advertisement on page 3 for more information.

Stations of the Cross – A somber, lay-led service, Station of the Cross will be offered Fridays at 7:00 pm by Tina Fey Lawton in the church. Through prayers and readings, "Stations of the Cross" walks with Jesus from his trial to his burial, inviting us to contemplate his passion during Lent. Everyone is welcome. Contact Tina Fey for more information.

Preparation for Communion and Baptism – Are you interested in learning the Episcopal understanding of Holy Communion and Baptism? Would you like to know the biblical and theological ideas behind those sacraments? Do you have a child who you want to have a better understanding of the sacraments before they receive, or do you have a child who needs to be baptized? Or maybe you yourself need to be baptized? During Lent, we will be holding two educational sessions in preparation for the sacraments.

Preparation for Holy Communion Class: Sunday, March 19 (after Sunday School) – We will host the Communion prep class in the Parish hall. Lunch will be provided. This will prepare children (and adults) for 1st Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday (April 13). (Cont. on pg. 4) The Banner March 2017

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News from the Pews

Thank you to the following members who provided refreshments during the coffee hours:
Joan Borkowski and
Nancy Garvin after the 10 am service.

Please keep the following shut-ins in your prayers -Mary Moody and Margaret Roth.

If you have any news to share, please let us know.



From the Jr. Warden



Organization and long-term planning were the themes at the most recent Vestry meeting. Father Ben is always looking toward the future, whether for a new contact management system to better understand our membership or clear and defined contracts with the outside groups that use our facilities.

Father Ben has been reaching out to past members of Holy Trinity to introduce himself and to get the community as excited as we are about our new direction. And it is new! Change was a term thrown around loosely at our recent meeting. We even began with the Gospel that tells us to put new wine in new wineskins. With four new members on the Vestry and a new priest, it was easy to feel change in the room. Now Father Ben is helping us put these new ideas into the proper wineskins so nothing bursts.

We're also working to make our church as visitor-friendly as possible. When someone enters Holy Trinity for the first time, can they tell where to find the bathroom? Or where to sign up for more information? The Vestry is committed to looking at Holy Trinity from a visitor's perspective to make sure the experience is as pleasant as possible.

A few of us will be headed to the Diocese of NJ Convention

Anniversaries

9) Norm & Roz Edman 23) Gary & Carla Henderson

Love is patient, love is kind... Love never fails.

I Corinthians 13:4-8

in Princeton on March 3 and we look forward to hearing the State of the Diocese and what they have planned for 2017. In the meantime, we're making sure that our little church is fully coordinated. Father Ben is working with the Vestry to create a list of by-laws to help organize our focus and our mission. It's been a long time coming, but it's better late than never! We are creating a solid foundation on which to build Holy Trinity for the next five to ten years and beyond.

Steve LoCastro Junior Warden

CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES AVAILABLE

Preparation for the Sacraments

March 19, 2017, at 12 pm – First Holy Communion April 2, 2017, at 12 pm – Baptism Lent has historically been a time of Christian formation and service. This Lent we will be offering two special courses for anyone interested in further spiritual formation. For more information or to RSVP, contact Fr. Ben at rector@holytrintivwenonah.org

Preparation for Communion – March 19, 12 pm; lunch provided Do you want to know more about Communion? Are you interested in a deeper understanding, of the images and theology of the Eucharist? Come and learn about Communion, its underlying theology, and imagery. This will prepare children (and adults) for their First Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday (April 13, 7 pm). This class is designed to help children receive Communion for the first time.

Preparation for Baptism – April 2, 2017, 12 pm

Do you want to get baptized? Or were you baptized as a baby and want a refresher on its meaning and importance? Everyone is invited to this brief class. The next dates for Baptism are the Easter Vigil (April 15, 7 pm) or Pentecost (June 4, 8 am or 10 am).

This class is designed for people who want to get baptized or have children who need to be baptized. It is a prerequisite for baptism.



Treasurer's Report

I just wanted to give a breakdown of the pledges made for 2017. As was reported at the annual meeting, we had 57 pledges for a total of \$124,594.00. This was one less pledge than what we received for 2016, but \$6,292.00 more than the \$118,302.00 total pledged in 2016.

For that increase in giving, I, Fr. Ben and the Vestry say Thank You!

I also wanted to show how the pledges broke down in the level of giving, so I prepared the following chart. It lists the ranges of pledges made, how many were made at each level, the percentage of pledgers at that level, the total amount raised at that level and the percentage that level fit within in the total amount.

Range	Count	% of pledges	Amount Pledged	% of Total Pledged
260-499	6	10.53%	\$1,986.00	1.59%
500-999	8	14.04%	\$4,972.00	3.99%
1000-1499	12	21.05%	\$13,784.00	11.06%
1500-1999	4	7.02%	\$6,740.00	5.41%
2000-2499	7	12.28%	\$15,152.00	12.16%
2500-2999	6	10.53%	\$15,632.00	12.55%
3000-3499	4	7.02%	\$12,708.00	10.20%
3500-3999	3	5.26%	\$11,340.00	9.10%
4000-4999	3	5.26%	\$13,340.00	10.71%
5000-9200	4	7.02%	\$28,940.00	23.23%
TOTALS	57		\$124,594.00	

Mark Sienkiewicz, Treasurer

Lenten Services

The Path of Holy Week – A Lenten Lunch Study

Wednesdays at Noon

Join the Woodbury Heights-Wenonah-Mantua Ministerium for our Lenten Lunch Study. In this five-week study, we will be walking through the geography of Holy Week, stopping at key points along the journey to Calvary. Everyone is welcome! A soup lunch will be provided free of charge.

March 8 "The Upper Room"

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (11 N Monroe, Wenonah)

March 15 "The Garden"

Mt. Zion Wesley UMC (1470 Glassboro Rd, Wenonah)

March 22 "The Courtroom"

1st Presbyterian Church PCUSA (335 Elm Ave, Woodbury Heights)

March 29 "The Praetorium"

Mantua UMC (201 Mantua Blvd, Mantua)

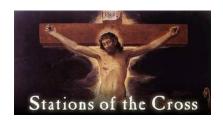
April 5 "The Via Dolorosa"

Wenonah UMC (105 E Willow St, Wenonah)

And be sure to join us for our Community Good Friday Service!

April 14 at 12:00 PM

Barnsboro UMC (677 Main St, Sewell)



Join us on Fridays during Lent at 7:30 pm from March 3 to April 7. A somber, lay-led service, the "Stations of the Cross" guides participants through Jesus' final steps from his trial to his burial. For more information, contact Tina Fey Lawton.

Calendar for Holy Week

Sunday, April 9

Palm Sunday — includes procession of palms and reading of the Passion at 8 & 10 am

Wednesday, April 12

Tenebrae at St. Mark's in Philadelphia, 7 pm; unofficial Holy Trinity Event

Thursday, April 13

Agape Meal, 6 PM in Parish Hall Maundy Thursday — 7 pm includes foot washing, 1st Holy Communion, stripping of the altar

Friday, April 14 — Community Good Friday, 12 pm at Barnsboro UMC *Good Friday Service*, 7 pm

Saturday, April 15 — Holy Saturday Service, 9 am. Please stay to help the Altar Guild prepare for Easter. EASTER VIGIL — 7 pm includes New Fire, Holy Trinity Dance Ensemble, Baptism, and 1st Easter Eucharist

Sunday, April 16 - *EASTER*, Rite I, 8 am; *EASTER*, Rite II, 10 am; Easter Egg Hunt, 9 am



The Banner March 2017



From the Rector: Thank You

It's hard to believe it's been less than two months since Ashley and I joined the Holy Trinity family. These past weeks have been a whirlwind of activity and it's been amazing getting to know the Wenonah and Gloucester County community, the people of Holy Trinity, and the stories that make us unique. Ashley and I have enjoyed the time we have spent with you all, and we hope to have many more opportunities in the future!

Additionally, Ashley and I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and hospitality as we have transitioned into this new role. We already feel so at home at Holy Trinity. We were stunned by the generosity, thought, and kindness that went into the gift basket. We are still discovering new things! All of you contributed to it—but it wasn't just money, or food, or gift cards—it was your way of saying "Welcome to Wenonah." It was your way of saying, "you are one of us." It was your way of saying, "Welcome to the family, we are glad you're here."

Every time Ashley and I have tried something new—from the Telford to the Cinder Bar, from the Hollywood Diner to Carolina Blue—we remember how all of you have done this for us. You have taken the two of us, relative strangers, and invited us into the life and spirit of Holy Trinity. I am so touched and so inspired by your love and hospitality.

The one thing that sticks out so clearly in these seven weeks—the thing that shines through in EVERYTHING we do—is that Holy Trinity really is a welcoming place. Lots of churches say this about themselves, but Holy Trinity is ABSOLUTELY one of them. It has helped make our transition so much easier, but more than that, it will help Holy Trinity be a missional place in our wider community —reaching out in love and service to the world, inviting everyone into the Holy Trinity family. All I can say is: Thank you.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for the way you welcomed us into the church, showed us what it means to come to South Jersey (especially after our time in Texas), and invited us into your lives. I look forward to being your priest and serving with all of you for the glory of God, doing the work of his kingdom.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you

In Christ, *Fr. Ben+*

PS: In the next weeks, Ashley and I will begin to reach out, individually, to all the families of Holy Trinity. We would like to find a time to meet with you, join in fellowship, and hear your stories. Whether that's at the rectory for dinner, in my office over coffee, or in your homes—the time together is important for Ashley and me to really get to know Holy Trinity. If you would like to schedule a time for us to meet and chat, please email me at rector@holytrinitywenonah.org.

I am keeping office hours Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9 am to 12 pm, so feel free to stop by then.

Lent Observance (cont. from pg. 1)

Preparation for Baptism Class: Sunday, April 2 (after Sunday School) – We will host the Baptism prep class in the parish hall. This will prepare adults looking to be baptized, parents desiring that their children be baptized, godparents/sponsors, and anyone interested in more information about baptism. The course applies to those desiring to be baptized at either at the Easter Vigil (April 15) or on Pentecost (June 4).

All of these opportunities are being offered as ways to help you observe a holy Lent. My prayer is that in whatever way you choose to observe it, that your Lent would prepare you for Holy Week, enliven your faith, and remind you of the extent of God's love for you, that God would send Jesus Christ to save us from our sins.

Fr. Ben+

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This and That

The Holy Trinity Prayer Chain

Since Fr. Ed left, there have been few requests to activate the church Prayer Chain. It now seems a good time to reacquaint everyone with its operation and purpose. First of all, it is not a vehicle for putting names on the list printed in the weekly bulletins. That is done by completing the request form in the bulletin or contacting our secretary, Lisa Carlamere.

The purpose of the prayer chain is to give each member of the congregation immediate access to the prayers and support of the members of the chain in a time of crisis or with any serious or pressing concerns. Most requests have been made for someone about to have surgery, recovering from surgery or a serious illness, or about to face difficult medical tests. Other situations might include facing a move to assisted living or nursing home, a death in the family, a job loss, or any other life crisis. Your prayer request can be simple without detail and kept within the prayer chain or it can also be met with a name in the bulletin. The prayer chain members will honor any concerns for privacy. To activate the prayer chain, call me directly or contact Fr. Ben.

The prayer chain was organized by Edna Dimitri about 15 years ago. At that time, 12 parishioners signed on. Due to the relocation of several members (including Edna), and the deaths of others, the membership has been reduced to six. We would like to

maintain at least 10 people for the chain, so we are in need of additional volunteers. Everyone is invited to prayerfully consider joining. It's an easy way to serve your congregation by offering the comfort of prayer in the time of need. For questions or to sign up, please call (468-6658) email (rhodaann70@gmail) or see me at church.

Rhoda Miller

Family Promise News

As you read this we will be in the middle of our latest host week: February 25 - March 5.

There is lots of Family Promise good news to report. We set up our volunteer board a few weeks ago and it was filled almost immediately.

In fact there were a few people who mentioned that they wanted to volunteer but the board filled up too fast. That is a problem that I will take every time.

Our Holy Trinity volunteers never cease to amaze me with their love and compassion. This week we have two families. One young working mom has two children and there is another family that was with us at Christmas. The younger mom works as a nurse and will be moving into a transition house shortly. The other family will soon be moving into an apartment.

Our next host week is May 21 - 27 so if you're interested in volunteering, please mark your calendar and look for the sign- up board.

And by the way, IHN is hosting a comedy night fundraiser

Saturday, March 4th at 7 pm in the Church of the Incarnation, 240 Main St., Mantua. Five comics will be performing and there will be food, soft drinks and a basket auction.

BYOB. Tickets are \$40 or 2 for \$70, and you can purchase them online at www.familypromisegc.org/events or call 856-243-5971 or email rparker@familypromise.org. All proceeds benefit Family Promise of Gloucester County. We hope to see you there.

Once again, thanks to all our Holy Trinity families for helping out with this important ministry to our neighbors in Gloucester County.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me any time.
609-405-5513
iLVmaine@comcast.net

Thank you, **Sean Garvin**

PS: The van still has that new car smell!

ECW News

Thank you to everyone who shared Valentine's Day love with folks all over the country and around the world through Church World Service's Blankets and Tools drive this year. Those warm feelings provide a payback that's priceless.

Speaking of warmth, we also thank all those who have made or purchased soup through these winter months. March brings this fundraiser to an end, and that means it's time to focus on the Yard Sale, which will coincide with the town-wide sale on the last

Saturday of April. As you begin that spring cleaning exercise, please remember us with your no-longer needed items. Bring them to the Parish Hall any time after Easter.

Lenten Lunch and Learn sessions will begin right here on Wednesday, March 8. We anticipate thankfulness for all members who can help us host the lunch portion. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the Narthex table, then enjoy a great learning opportunity with folks from neighboring churches.

District ECW will hold its next meeting at Christ Church, Woodbury on Sunday, March 19, beginning at 2 pm. This is another opportunity for fellowship and good works with women from around the District, and to enjoy inspiring speakers and delicious refreshments.

Looking ahead a bit, please mark May 3 on your calendar. Landmark Americana, on the corner of N. Main St (Rt. 553) and West Ave (Rt. 322) in Glassboro, is hosting a fundraiser for us. A percentage of your lunch or dinner bill will be donated to us. Please look for flyers to take with you, and enjoy a great meal out while helping your favorite ECW.

Our next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 13, beginning at 7pm, and ending within the usual hour. Come and see what else we're up to **or** bring your ideas about what we ought to be up to!

Joan Munyon, Secretary

Change in Sunday School Schedule After Easter

Starting the Sunday after Easter and continuing through the end of the school year, we will be moving Sunday School to 9 am.

We are making this move for a few reasons. First, putting Sunday School between both services and offering Adult Formation at that time shows our commitment to Christian Formation for EVERYONE. Everyone at Holy Trinity will have a Sunday School class—from the littlest kid to the oldest adult! Christian Formation experts suggest that the best time for Sunday School is the time slot where the most number of people can participate. 9 am allows people who attend either service to access Christian Formation conveniently before or after their preferred worship service.

Furthermore, putting it between the two services bridges a large gap—the gap between the "8 O'Clockers" and the "10 O'Clockers." What better way to come together as a church than through Christian Formation? Coffee Hour after the 10 AM will now be for everyone—for the whole family—to join in fellowship, mingle, and welcome everyone. I am cognizant that the change in time effects the 8 am Coffee Hour on May 21. I am hoping the 8 am Coffee Hour will still happen. We will start Adult Sunday School at 9:15 / 9:20 AM, giving us a few minutes for Coffee Hour.

Finally, this is an experiment! I have consulted with the Vestry, the Sunday School teachers, and others to see if Holy Trinity might be open to this idea. This change will last from April 23 to June 11, and then we will break for the summer. Like all good experiments, we will review our data and see what the result is. I will be soliciting feedback from everyone. Did you like the change? What worked and what didn't? What could we do better or differently? If you have questions, concerns, or feedback before then, please do not hesitate to contact me at rector@holytrintiywenonah.org.

The New Sunday Schedule Will be:

8 am

Traditional Spoken Service of Holy Communion, Rite I

9 am

Sunday School for All Ages Children (Pre-K thru 12th) in the Education Wing Adult Sunday School in the Parish Hall

9:45 am

Choir Practice in the Church

10 am

Contemporary Language Sung Service of Holy Communion, Rite II

11:15 am

Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

11:30 am

Joyful Noise Choir in the Church

There will be no Sunday School on May 28, Memorial Day Weekend.

Fr. Ben+



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Birthdays

- 3) Ashley Maddison
- 4) Nancy Garvin Nicole Crowe
- 6) Paul Eldridge Evie Stefanowicz
- 7) Mia Miller Al Valentino
- 8) Aleksa Sienkiewicz
- 12) Jeremy Dheel
- 13) Anna Sahkul
- 16) Leigh Whittinghill
- 18) Caitlyn Muldowny
- 21) Howard Gwin
- 22) Kate Valentino
- 28) Amber Copeland Rebecca Stefanowicz
- 31) Matthew Szczepanski

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP, p. 830



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 2017						
			1 Ash Wednesday 7 am, Noon, & 7 pm Ashes	2 7:30 pm Adult Choir	3 Fr. Ben's Day off Diocesan Convention	4 5pm Holy Eucharist At Holy Nativity 7 pm IHN Fundraiser at Incarnation Church Diocesan
						Convention
8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist 9:10 am Joyful Noise choir 11:15 am Christian Education	6	7 8 am Morning Prayer 5:15 pm Evening Prayer	8 Noon Lenten Luncheon at Holy Trinity	9 7:30 pm Adult Choir	10 8:45 am Deliver food to KOH Fr. Ben's Day off	8:00 am KOH Pantry 5 pm Holy Eucharist at Holy Trinity
12 8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist 9:10 am Joyful Noise choir 11:15 am Christian Education	13 7 pm ECW Mtg.	14 8 am Morning Prayer 5:15 pm Evening Prayer	15 Noon Len- ten Luncheon at Mt. Zion Wes- ley UMC	16 7:30 pm Adult Choir	17 Fr. Ben's Day off	18 5pm Holy Eucharist At Holy Nativity
19 8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist 8:45 am Refreshments 9:10 am Joyful Noise choir 11:15 am Christian Education Noon First Holy Communion Class	20 7 pm Vestry Mtg.	21 8 am Morning Prayer 5:15 pm Evening Prayer	Noon Lenten Luncheon at First Presbyterian Church (Woodbury Hgts.)	23 7:30 pm Adult Choir	24 Fr. Ben's Day off	25 5 pm Holy Eucharist at Holy Trinity
26 8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist 9:10 am Joyful Noise choir 11:15 am Christian Education	27 6:30 pm Lector Team Mtg.	28 8 am Morning Prayer 5:15 pm Evening Prayer	29 Noon Lenten Luncheon at Mantua UMC	30 7:30 pm Adult Choir	31 Fr. Ben's Day off	1 5pm Holy Eucharist At Holy Nativity

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We're on the Web!

www.holytrinitywenonah.org www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityWenonah The mission of Holy Trinity
Episcopal Church, inspired by Jesus'
mandate to love and serve one
another, is to create a supportive
community where people are able
to develop and nourish their
relationship with God through
worship, education and fellowship.



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church 11 N. Monroe Ave. Wenonah, NJ 08090