



Summer 2020

# Trinity Times

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church, Washington, VA

## The Rambling Rector

By Miller Hunter

In these strange and troubling days in which we now live, it seems appropriate to begin by saying, "hello!" Carol and I are well and trust that all of you are likewise surviving this Covid moment. While many of our normal church activities are in limbo, the work of your vestry continues. Spots Williams was elected Senior Warden in May and Tim Kerr was reelected as Junior Warden. Spots, Karen Ingraham, Cole Johnson, and Peter Vander Nat were elected as new vestry members.



In our ongoing work as a vestry we will have our annual vestry retreat on August 21-22. Walt Childress, our friend from Washington Baptist, will lead the retreat. We plan to focus on several key areas of discussion. The first will be to focus on Trinity's historic leadership role in Rappahannock County and to consider how we might use our outreach resources and leadership to respond to the ongoing Covid related demands in our county. We believe there will continue to be many needs of an ongoing nature. Secondly, we will focus on our own strategy for re-opening when it is safe to do so and when the Bishop grants us permission to do so. In the meanwhile, we will consider ways that we can gather virtually as a community. Stay focused for announcements on these developments.

Thirdly, we will receive and consider the report of the organ committee. Chaired by Derek Capizzi, with Kay Wilson, Peter Stetson, and Judy Segaar serving on the committee, this group has done an extensive study of organ replacement possibilities for our parish. The vestry looks forward to sharing their findings with the parish in the near future.

Most of all we are eager to receive your input and guidance. Please share your thoughts with Senior Warden Spots Williams or any member of the vestry.

We live in an extraordinary moment filled with challenges and possibilities. Join us as we pray that our parish will respond with compassion and faithfulness to the challenges that confront us.

Best,  
Miller



Helen, Kay and Susan visiting on Helen's porch to discuss ECW issues, all yearning for the time when we can be together again for fellowship and breakfast.



**Senior Warden Report**

By Spots Williams

Greetings to all members of our congregation.  
All I can say is, Standby by for further news!  
I know that is not very satisfying, but that is where we are.  
As for our next live church service we are working on it.

- Our Bishop has not yet approved any live service. She hews closely to the Governor’s orders.
  - We continue to work on details of how to have a service not in the church building but in a sympathetic parishioners' back yard or other open space.
  - We have been unable, as of today, to get any sort of communion approved by our Bishop.
- We have the final report from our hardworking Organ Committee and in it they lay out the possibilities. They do not make a suggestion as to organ choice. Basically, the choice is between an excellent 100 year plus pipe organ for about \$400,000 plus \$25,000 to \$75,000 for adapting the church and a very high quality 40-50 year electronic organ for about \$100,000.
- So at our Vestry Retreat to be held in Little Washington on 21 and 22 August, we will decide what we as your vestry will suggest as our best course of action and the reasons.

There will be many other things we will discuss at the Retreat and I will share shortly thereafter.

I Pray you all are well!  
With love and warm regards,  
Spots



Trinity’s Boy Scout Troop 36 held a Court of Honor to celebrate two Scouts who earned Eagle rank, one that earned Life rank, and two that earned Scout rank, along with several merit badges in between.

**Food Pantry Update**

By Noel Laing

Coved 19 has had a significant impact on the Pantry. At the beginning of the pandemic, the number of people we were feeding doubled. Since then the numbers have subsided but still way over what we would normally expect to see at this time of year. We moved to a drive through pickup system as the building had to be closed. This worked quite well until the restrictions on group gatherings were eased. We moved back inside with limited number of two shoppers at a time. Many of our regular volunteers had to stop coming to the Pantry since most of them are in the high-risk group. We have had a tremendous increase in younger volunteers, both men and women so we have been able to keep going.

We partnered with Rappahannock County Elementary School in providing food for children while school has been closed. The RCES supplied lunches for five days and we supplied back packs for the week ends. The school did home deliveries or parents could pick up the food at the School Board Office. We also had back packs available at the Pantry. We feed about 150 students each week since school was closed.

We had to cancel our annual Pantry Day Pet Parade and Dinner, one of our primary fund raiser events of the year. A very generous benefactor and the Path Foundation stepped in with donations that offset this loss. We are very grateful for these donations.



We received three bids on our new Pantry building, all of which were way over our budget. As we were discussing how to proceed, we had an offer from the Black Kettle Group for a prepared site on the property where the old Black Kettle Motel used to be. It is between Leggett Lane and Rout 211 off Warren Ave. – across from the new Post Office. We have accepted this offer as it will save us about \$300,000. More details and timing will follow at a later date.



The Boy Scouts have had one outing so far since COVID hit. They took a day bike trip down the Fodderstack and back in the intense July heat.

**Men’s Book Group**  
By Rich Spillenkothen

We have been meeting at Trinity House on the last Monday of each month (with a couple months off for summer) for many years, but cancelled meetings earlier this year with advent of Covid-19. We resumed meeting last week in Parish Hall with masks and social distancing. Typical hour and a half meeting involves 3 members talking about a recent history or nonfiction book each has read with time for general discussion and Qs and As for each book. There’s no expectation or requirement for the non-presenting folks attending the meeting to have read the books being discussed, but we do try to inform everyone in advance of the book each person will be discussing. Because the group is fairly small (normally 5-6 attendees) social distancing is easy to arrange in the large Parish Hall. We’re always happy to welcome new members (next meeting is Monday, August 31) and given available space in the hall, appropriate distancing should remain pretty manageable.



Despite the virus, heat, and humidity, Susan Peterson’s yoga class met on a class member’s patio. Downward dogs all!

**Pastoral Care Team Update**  
By Kathi Dutilh

Dear friends,

After five productive years as head of the Pastoral Care Team, Kay Wilson is stepping down to pursue other Trinity interests!



Kay focused the team, at monthly meetings, on those in our community in need of prayers, meals, visits -- and instituted new policies during Covid to stay in touch with those who live alone.

The team remembers birthdays and anniversaries with hand written cards, as well as notes of comfort for those who are not well or have lost a loved one.

At Easter and Christmas, flowers of the season are delivered to those on our prayer list.

Kathi Dutilh will be "taking over" for Kay and will continue the Pastoral Care Team traditions. Anyone who has been a recipient of the Pastoral Care Teams' visits, meals, cards, or comfort -- will attest to the value of this important ministry. Please join us. We will meet again, when we are able.

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Ladies aerobics class had to quickly find new ways to exercise and they enjoy walking the Town every chance they get, rain or shine!

Dear friends --

How I miss seeing you all on Sundays and at the Forum and coffee hour to catch up on your week!

Now it's been way too many weeks without contact --so I thought, if you were interested, we could share what we did this spring - summer with each other.

Please send me ([DutilhKM@gmail.com](mailto:DutilhKM@gmail.com)) a short note, a photo, or a recommendation to share with others in our Trinity Family -- until we meet again!

- Creative projects: paintings, gardening, sculpture, knitting
- News of your family
- Photos of completed projects: garden, woodworking, knitting, etc.
- Names of books you've read - and a few sentences why you recommend
- A poem you may have written
- A recipe your family loves/something new you tried
- Movie series you've enjoyed and can recommend
- Road trips you could recommend or are longing to take
- Something new you've learned to do (video recording church services :)
- What are you missing the most about not being able to meet weekly
- Anything you'd like to communicate to the Trinity family

...Just an experiment and maybe just for a few months -- wouldn't that be GREAT if we could soon be back together again?

Kathi Dutilh