

The Tidings



**2201 Spring Lake Rd.
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**HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL
CHURCH & SCHOOL**
Belong. Blossom. Bless.

Table of Contents

Senior Warden’s Message	2
Stewardship Letter	3
Sr. Warden’s Report	4
Parishioner Spotlight	4
Ministry & Stewardship Fair	5
November Poetry	6
Outreach Committee	6 & 7
Gisselle’s Travels	8
Lili’s Baby Shower	10
Blessing of Animals	10
Golf Benefit Update	11
Announcements	12
Contact’s Page	13

Happy November Anniversary To:

- 5** - Deacon Charlie & Angela Perrin
- 23** - Rick & Karen Hammen
- 25** - Robert & Gay Hensley

Happy November Birthday To:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 - Judy Monin | 19 - Susan Steidl |
| 12 - Kay Hodge | 22 - Dan Curtis |
| 14 - Cheryl Pringle | 23 - Arlene Hanson |
| 15 - Mary Jo Neidow | 26 - Jaleh Welton |
| 18 - Robin Michell | 29 - Robert Hensley |

In Loving Memory Of:

- Gail Spencer Hole**
- Frankie Richie**
- Bishop Dabney Smith**

Senior Warden's Message

Walking in Love



Dear Holy Trinity Family,

This year's Stewardship Theme is "Walk in Love". I feel the reading from Sunday October 20th seemed to sum it up perfectly,

"For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve...". As his "Children", I feel we should follow his path.

To be honest, I do not see it as "serving" as much as I see it as a way of thanking Our Father for all he does for us. I feel walking in "Love" is evidence of a of a grateful heart. I think of all the challenges I have faced in my life, and how God has seen me through them. How can I look and see all the blessings surrounding me and not be grateful? It is through Stewardship I can show my gratitude and love.

Stewardship can be shown in many ways. We have the choice of displaying it through "Time, Talent and Treasure". Many of our "Family" show their love and gratitude through "Time". So many of our Members donate hours to Holy Trinity in helping with her upkeep. The lawns and buildings are maintained by so many dedicated people.

They work on the grounds, paint the trim, power wash the siding and tombstones and clean the parking lot. We have a dedicated group that makes sure the Church is always set for services and decorated for holidays.

We have many Members whose "Talents" bring beauty and joy to our services. Musicians and singers augment Sunday services and enrich the Holidays with harmony and song. We have some very talented men, who prepare lovely "Pancake Breakfasts" for us to enjoy after services. There are many other talents which are displayed on the Altar through flower arrangements and linen embroidery.

Treasure is the primary way of showing our love and gratitude. That is the part of Stewardship that keeps the lights on and the temperature comfortable. That is the element that permits us to offer assistance through Outreach to those who are not as fortunate. This year we were able to replace the walkway, so all our Family Members could enter Church without fear of injury. We have been able to pay off our loan, and keep up with repairs that were required.

So, again I ask you to please search your hearts, wallets and calendars to see what you can comfortably share with Holy Trinity.



How can you help to keep our "Spiritual Home" as loving and welcoming as it has always been?

By Doris Ann Brennan, Senior Warden



Walk in Love

God Walks with Us



Our walk in love began early in our relationship. Living in Utah, a Methodist and a Catholic in the land of the Latter-Day Saints, becoming Episcopalian only seemed logical.

When we moved to our current hometown, two things attracted us to the congregation that became our home: a stunning building designed by a world-renowned architect, a perfect setting for two young architects early in their career; and a Boy Scout trailer in the parking lot, perfect for an Eagle Scout from years earlier. Both our children were baptized within the walls of this church. Our son was confirmed and lived his scouting life through the troop chartered by the church. And our daughter has lived her entire spiritual life at our congregation. All of it has been a walk in love.

That walk, and the love that accompanies it, sustained us through a dark time that came suddenly and unexpectedly. In 2021 we tragically lost our 15-year-old son. Our priest brought calm in that devastating moment and was a constant reminder that God walks with us. From the congregation in the days and weeks that followed, meals were prepared, boxes of supplies arrived, there were calls, emails, texts, visits from our community of faith. We never doubted that God was with us, walking with us and, many days, carrying us. Our faith deepened. We were renewed in the unending love of God and upheld by a congregation of friends that gave of their time, their treasures, and their love with no expectation for repayment.

The stewardship of their lives, their walk with us in love, upheld us. Through them, we have experienced how much Christ has loved us. And because of that, we are to able give to others from all the gifts that God has given and to continue to walk in love. | tens.org

Questions for Reflection:

What is the relationship between compassion and generosity? How have you experienced both?



Todd and Elizabeth Medd are members of Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo, North Dakota.

Through the death of their son, Liam, they established the 4-6-3 Foundation with a mission to provide lifesaving tools, techniques and resources to youth and their parents, coaches, teachers, and mentors to reduce the stigma around depression and end suicide. 463foundation.org



THE EPISCOPAL
NETWORK FOR
STEWARDSHIP

For Pastoral Care we welcome you to contact:

Robin Mitchell

(352)350-1451 | RobinMitchell@yahoo.com

Fr. Samuel Nsengiyumva

(902)226-0050 | rector@holyltrinityfp.com

OR call the church office Monday-Thursday during office hours.

Sr. Warden's Report

I am happy to report this has been one busy month.

We had The Blessing of the Pets. The weather was perfect, and so were the pets. The Holy Trinity Episcopal School Golf Benefit was held at Harbor Hills. We enjoyed a lovely day, with one really quick and very heavy rain shower. Naomi did a wonderful job procuring baskets for the event. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner after golf.

We had our Third Annual Ministry Fair. The Parish Hall was decorated and, as always, a wonderful spread was set out for coffee hour. Ministry Tables were set up around the room. Each one displayed various Committees that serve Holy Trinity and the Community. Members of the Committees were present to answer any questions; volunteer sheets were available. We had parishioners from each service browse and inquire about our various Ministries. It was wonderful for our Holy Trinity Family to see what goes on behind the scenes.

This coming month will be dedicated to Stewardship. We will be reminded of what Holy Trinity means to each one of us, and what we can do to keep our "Home" the warm and loving sanctuary it has become.

Doris Brennan, Senior Warden

Parishioner Spotlight: Ron and Cherrie Whetsell



This month the Spotlight focuses on Ron and Cherrie Whetsell. Congratulations are in order as Ron and Cherrie have recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary! They have three children, a son deceased, and two daughters and six grandchildren, all Texas residents. Appropriate for the season, they own a one-year-old tuxedo cat, "Spooky."

Ron was born in Duncan, Oklahoma and was a life-long resident of Texas; Cherrie was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and was raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin. They married in Texas and lived there until 2016 when they moved to Florida and settled in The Villages.

The Whetsells were both bankers when they met. Cherrie also was a teacher and Ron

retired from Chase Bank. He was then part-owner of an executive search firm which specialized in the banking industry. In retirement, Ron writes full time and Cherrie crochets daily. She has completed multiple blankets for family and friends. Both are daily walkers, avid readers, and are active in the Texas Club.

Ron teaches the Adult Education Class at Holy Trinity, which meets on Sunday mornings between services. Both he and Cherrie have served in multiple roles in previous Episcopal churches in Houston and Dallas areas including Vestry, Tutor, Lay-reader, Bible Study, Peru Mission trips, and Adult Education.

More than a hobby, Ron has taken his talent for writing to a higher level. He is currently a graduate student at Liberty University (online) studying creative-writing, has written poetry since 2017, and has published a fiction novel in 2023, *The Rebellion of Greater Catalonia*. Available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble websites, ‘*The book theme is the struggle between two opposing forces; those intent on preserving Spanish sovereignty over the Catalonian region of Spain, and the other, which is determined on winning independence from Spanish rule. A family is torn apart by conflicting loyalties, some to Spain as a U.S. and NATO ally, others to their family history in Catalonia.*’ Also note that Ron has used the pen name of Nathan Hunter.

A second fiction novel is scheduled for release in early 2025. His work can be found on “Ronald Whetsell’s Creative Writing and Poetry Blog,” at ronsblogs.blog.

By Joan Hensley

The Ministry & Stewardship Fair



Sunday, October 20th was the inaugural kick-off of the joint Ministry and Stewardship Fair at Holy Trinity. The theme for this year’s Fair was Walk in Love. Members began this walk by following the foot prints that began outside the Parish Hall and led them into the Ministry and Stewardship Fair. Once inside they progressed from table to table to see the various ministry displays and talk with representatives of these ministries. Members learned more about how each ministry contributes to the warm and welcoming environment of Holy Trinity.

Some members decided to donate their time and talent by signing up to join a ministry team.



The coffee-hour fellowship team did a wonderful job of having beverages and food available for those who attended.

The Stewardship Campaign will continue for several more weeks, culminating in Consecration Sunday on November 17th. At each

of our upcoming services a member of Holy Trinity will share how the theme, walk in love, has shaped their life.

Each of you is invited to walk in love as you share your treasure, time and talent in our church and community.

Judy Gygi, IWC Committee Chair

Mark Welton, Finance Committee Chair

November Poetry

Imagine

Midnight blue,
It shadows you,
Like shade near horizon.
Deep as black,
Then broken back,
To see the sun brighten.

What shall I do,
But walk with you,
To join in spiritual journey,
We walk the sky,
Explore the why,
Eternal life learning.

Ron Whetsell
August 18, 2024

HTEC School Tutor Program

Make a difference in a child's life

If you or someone you know wants to make a real difference in a child's life and has just one hour a week to work one-on-one with a student as a tutor, please call (913) 558-2636 or email jimkelly8143@gmail.com. (Snow Birds are welcome, no formal academic

certification is required. Tutor training and instructional materials are provided.)

Jim Kelly, HTEC Tutor Program Coordinator

Salvation Army Food Bank Collection

Little Red Wagon Salvation Army Food Bank

The Outreach committee is asking you all to contribute to the Salvation

Army food bank by making deposits of non-perishable food in the Little Red Wagon at the front of the church on Sundays. Specifically, the Salvation Army is asking for breakfast cereal, peanut butter, bags/boxes of rice, instant potatoes, canned vegetables and canned meat. For more information about helping our brothers and sisters in Christ, please contact *Annette Freeman (352)406-7608*



Salvation Army Bell Ringers

We are needed again this year as Bell Ringers by Salvation Army. These

opportunities will start in November and go through Christmas. We invite you to give us 2 hours as Bell Ringers manning the "Red Kettle" so families can be blessed this next year by the Salvation Army Ministry. It is fun and will be a blessing to you also. **Jim Kelly** is our contact for this. He will soon put out the information so we can sign up to help. Questions, contact *Jim Kelly at (913) 558-2636*.

HTEC Salvation Breakfast Team

Our group is active monthly preparing and serving breakfast to those who come to the Salvation Army Office needing a hot breakfast. They offer breakfast Monday through Friday except during holidays. If you feel called to join this Ministry, contact **Jim Kelly (913) 558-2636**.



Holy Trinity Outreach Update

Christmas is right around the corner...



We wanted to send out an update about the **Salvation Army Angels** and the **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child** Ministries.

On Ministry Sunday, we had 11 Salvation Army Angels requested. We will have a sign-up Sheet on the table by double doors going into Parish Hall. Please sign up there if you can take and shop for an Angel. We will need to collect that list soon, so if you can help, please sign up. We are waiting to learn the date our Angels will be available to us and to learn the date the Angels with gifts must be delivered back to their office.

We had 18 of the 50 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes claimed on Ministry Sunday. We are hoping the remaining 32 will be claimed. These Shoeboxes need to be returned to the Parish Hall by Sunday Nov. 17. They will then be delivered to packing locations on their way to awaiting children. Please place your Shoebox or Shoeboxes on the stage in Parish Hall. We are asked to include in the Shoebox \$10 in cash or check (if a check please make it out to Samaritan's Purse). This helps with the shipping cost of

the Shoeboxes. We learned in September that this year ALL Shoeboxes collected in the state of Florida will be shipped across the ocean and delivered to Africa.

We are also requesting the sponsorship of 73 Wreaths through the Wreath's Across America Program. These will adorn the 73 Veteran Graves in our church cemetery. Each sponsorship is \$12. The theme of the Wreaths Across America Program for 2024 is "Live with Purpose".

Our Sponsorships of the Wreaths needs to be collected by Sunday Nov. 17. There will be Wreaths Across America Collection Envelopes in the pews on Sunday. Just drop your Envelope in our Collection Bags, if paying with a check, it needs to be made out to HTEC. We will be placing our Wreaths on our Veteran Graves immediately after each Sunday Service on Dec. 15, 2024.

Our Christmas Offering will support the Episcopal Relief Fund, this year's funds will support Hurricane Relief and go to people who had loss during Hurricane Helene or Hurricane Milton. A portion of our collection will go directly to St Mathias Episcopal Church down in Winter Garden, Florida. They suffered damage during Hurricane Milton.

We want to thank the many people who will support these Ministries this year. Please also include them in your prayers.

Questions you may contact **Annette Freeman 352-406-7608**

Annette Freeman, Outreach HTEC

Gisselle's Travels



Hi Holy Trinity Family,

Even though no one prepared me for the awful feeling of jetlag, it's good to be back!

I want to give a special thank you to Mary Soeldner for taking on the responsibility of Office Administrator while I was away. She did a fabulous job, and we are so lucky to have her here at Holy Trinity!

As many of you are aware, I was away for 3 weeks as part of a church pilgrimage. Me and 66 others embarked on a religious and cultural once-in-a-lifetime experience. As I have told my family, words and pictures do not do justice to the beautiful scenery, jaw-dropping historical monuments, and spiritually enlightening opportunities experienced throughout this trip. However, I will do my best to put it into words so you can get a glimpse of what I encountered.

My travels were much more than I expected. During my time away, I was able to uncover the wonders of Turkey. This nation, at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, is a captivating blend of history, culture, and natural beauty. From the ancient ruins of Ephesus,

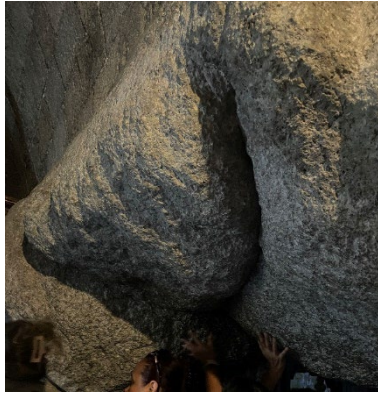
the Byzantine Masterpiece of Hagia Sophia to the fairy chimneys and cave dwellings of Cappadocia, and the octagonal Martyrium of St. Philip in Pamukkale, every corner of Turkey tells a story.

For me the most fascinating thing of all was visiting the House of Mother Mary in Ephesus, where it is believed she spent her final years. It is said that John the Evangelist built this house for Mary in the 4th century after the crucifixion of Jesus. However, the small stone structure wasn't excavated and restored until the 19th century and has since become a highly visited pilgrimage site for Christians from all parts of the world.



During our visit, our group was able to have a small service in the church next to Mary's House. We also got the chance to leave written prayers and messages on the "wishing wall" and visit the fountain of the "Water of Mary", located near the tomb. Many believe the water has healing properties, and some women and couples will even visit this site to receive help with infertility.

After wrapping up our tour of Turkey, we set off on a cruise ship through the Greek Islands. In Patmos we were blessed to see the Cave of the Apocalypse, where St. John the Divine received his visions that he wrote in the Book of Revelation. I was able to touch the rocks of the cave that cracked and created three fissures, which are symbolic of the **Holy Trinity**.



Throughout our visit of the Greek Islands, we were also able to visit Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini. We finished the tour in Athens where we visited the Acropolis, Parthenon, Ancient Agora of Athens, and Mars Hill (Areopagus), where St. Paul preached the Gospel.

Our last stop was in Dubai for a short but sweet three days. During our time there, we saw the groundbreaking and ambitious wonders of mankind. This extravagant city defies expectations and redefines the concept of innovation.



We observed the beauty and size of the city from the top of the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest structure. We also got to enjoy the skyline and city lights during a dinner cruise around Dubai Marina. Our trip wasn't

complete without exploring the red sand dunes and desert wildlife on a desert safari. We concluded our travels with a short daytrip to Abu Dhabi where we were able to admire the beautiful Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, one of the world's largest mosques and an architectural work of art.

In addition to the scenery, I was able to cross paths with individuals from all walks of life. We had a very diverse group of people from different cultures, ages, and with different stories. I met people from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Chile. Some were travelling alone, others with family, friends, or partners. There was a couple celebrating their recent marriage. Even more touching was seeing a testament of enduring love in a couple celebrating their 68-year anniversary. On the longer days when I would get tired from walking, I would turn to see them walking hand in hand and pushing through without complaints. Their perseverance, love for life and for each other is something I will carry with me always.

I met many grandkids through photographs, said hello to many sons and daughters over Facetime, and heard countless stories of people's lives back home. I began my trip with all unfamiliar faces (except for my brother and sister) but left with a small family and wonderful memories that will last me a lifetime.

Beyond the picturesque landscapes and international cuisines, this was an opportunity for personal growth and education that very few other experiences can attain. During my trip I was reminded that there is a big, beautiful world out there, and getting to experience it is a gift from God.

Gisselle Martinez, Office Administrator

A Baby Shower for Lili



IWC Ministry members Deb Yee & Pat Casson Fleming hosted a co-ed Baby Shower for parishioner Lili Panlilio and her fiancé Haiden on Sunday afternoon, Oct 27th.

Fr Samuel led everyone in prayer and offered a special blessing for the mother-to-be.

A woodland animal's theme provided the backdrop for the parents-

to-be as they opened lots of presents for baby boy Atlas who is expected in November. Attendees included members of Lili's parish



family, some family members of both Lili and Haiden, plus a few special family friends. Lili, Haiden, and mom Mandy expressed gratitude for the good wishes and generosity of our parishioners, many of whom sent gifts but were unable to attend that day. Thanks also to those who provided food for this fun gathering.

Deb Yee, IWC Ministry Member

Blessing of the Animals

The Holy Trinity Courtyard was the setting for the Blessing of the Animals, Saturday, October 5th. Although some of the animals were unsettled and anxious at the outset, they soon calmed down and the service began.



After the bible readings and prayers, Fr. Samuel walked among the animals blessing each of them and providing a medal and a treat.



The service concluded with this reading, they [pets} may not understand the

complex theologies we have come to construct but, in their own way of knowing, they are close to God.

Judy Gygi, IWC Committee Chair

Golf Benefit Update



The students at Holy Trinity Episcopal School want to Thank You for everything you did to help them continue their education. Everyone did an outstanding job of volunteering their time, sponsoring holes and straight-out donations. As always, we couldn't do it without everyone's help.



Our golfers also enjoyed a little "shower time" in the middle of their play. What troopers they were. Again, our baskets were outstanding and the 50/50 drawing netted the winner \$556. Thank you to our winner for donating \$200.00 back to our school. Although our numbers aren't finalized yet, it looks like we have netted a little over \$28,000!

A special thank you to our title sponsor Blackston Financial Advisors. They continue to be the angel of the Benefit.





Saturday Services Resume | NOV. 9

Saturday Services will resume on **November 9th at 4:15PM** in the Church. This service is a simple Holy Communion service without music. Occasionally, we have special music from our own or guest musicians. All are welcome!

Adult Sunday School

Our Adult Sunday School class is studying a **4-week DVD series** on Generosity. Join us every Sunday at **9:15am** in Grace Chapel as we rediscover that we were created to be generous in the image of a loving and generous God. The study is intended for those seeking to live a more generous life as they reflect on their cultural, generational, and family attitudes towards generosity.

Consecration Sunday | NOV. 17

As we continue to reflect on what it means to walk in love in the context of a church community, we reminded that we will have an opportunity to present our response on **Sunday Nov. 17** by filling out an **Estimate of Giving card** and present it to the Altar as our expression of gratitude and commitment to walking in love as God has loved is in Christ Jesus.

2025 Envelopes are Here

Giving Envelopes for 2025 have been delivered. If you ordered envelopes, please pick them up at your earliest convenience during office hours or on Sunday during coffee hour. Envelopes will be named and numbered in **Parish Hall**. Email office@holyltrinityfp.com or call [352-787-1500](tel:352-787-1500) if you are unsure whether you ordered envelopes.

Wreaths Across America | Deadline: NOV. 15

This year the theme is “Live With Purpose” this theme should remind us that the Service men and women had a purpose as they Served our country. It was to keep us safe here at home. Now we are being asked to Remember - Honor - Teach. We need 73 Wreaths to place on our Veteran Graves in our cemetery. This cost is \$12.00 per wreath. Your donation is needed by Friday Nov. 15, 2024. National Wreaths Across America Day will be on Saturday Dec. 14, 2024. We at HTEC will place our Wreaths on Sunday Dec. 15, 2024 after each Service.

Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Christmas Child | Deadline: NOV. 20

These Shoeboxes will be ready for pickup at the Outreach Table during our Ministry Fair. All instructions will come with the shoebox. The deadline for having these shoeboxes back at church and placed on the stage area of **Parish Hall** is Wednesday by **noon** on Nov. 20, 2024. They will then be taken to the shipping location on Thursday. Contact Annette Freeman with any questions on these Ministries. Call or text her at 352-406-7608

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and School

2201 Spring Lake Road
Fruitland Park FL 34731

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Cell: 920-226-0050

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The Rev. Dr. James Jones – Assisting Priest

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Kathy Wolfe - Bookkeeper

Sharon Redding – Music Director

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Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

In-Person & Livestream Services:

Saturday 4:15pm (Sanctuary)

Sunday 8:00am (Sanctuary)

Sunday 10:30am (Sanctuary)

Wednesday Healing 11:30am (Chapel)

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Newsletter Articles:

Please submit by 25th of each month

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