

trinity topics

From the Rector's Desk . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

This month's reflection comes to you from Becca Stevens book *Sanctuary: Unexpected Places Where God Found Me*. It is entitled Waiting for a Horse. Horses carry the spirit of God in their gait. It is always magical to watch a horse run and see its mane dancing free in the wind.

The other day a friend of mine invited me to come to her farm to sit and watch her horses run free in their huge pasture. I chose a particularly lovely day, bought the best cup of coffee I could find, and found a quiet spot near a stone fence with a stand of trees nearby. The scene was set, with surround-sound crickets and the kind of slow-motion clouds that make you believe you have all the time in the world.

I sat in silence and waited. Then I started to get fidgety. I realized I had to be somewhere in an hour. Furthermore, even though I could hear the horses neighing every now and then, I hadn't actually seen one. They needed to come out so that I could see them as a witness to the living spirit of God, and so that my morning of inspiration wasn't wasted.

I listened for the horses. Thinking I heard them running, I started down into a thick stand of trees. They weren't there. I thought, *This isn't getting me anywhere. I wish I had some trick to make them coming running toward me.*

Standing there near the edge of the trees, itchy and impatient, I finally came to myself and found the humor of my situation. I am in a bad way when I start approaching the Spirit as if I'm on a game hunt. Better for it to stay hidden than to waste its meaning on a wretched soul who is trying to use it like a commodity.

I sat there alone with no signs, just the dead still of the morning as my guide. I waited until I was done with the lesson, then wiped the grass stains off my rear, poured out my cold coffee, and headed back toward the car.

As I walked, I apologized to God for all the times I had gone to church to hear myself speak and for carrying the silly notion that I could ever schedule God's spirit to move in my life. I apologized to the horses, wherever they were, for thinking a novice could look at them and have any idea how beautiful they were.

I climbed into the car and drove to the stables, where I found my friend. "How was your morning?" she asked.

"Perfect," I said. And I meant it.

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150th Anniversary Interviews

One of the adventures of our 150th Anniversary is to interview members of Trinity. Kathy Lozier has graciously agreed to spearhead this project. She would like to know if you are willing to share your experiences here at Trinity. If you don't want to come alone, bring your spouse, bring a friend or bring a family member; just come and share! If you prefer to not be on video, we can simply record your voice. Your experiences are important to us.

Contact Kathy Lozier. Her phone number is in the directory and her email address is kathytl06@gmail.com, or contact the church office and we can connect you.

We would like to interview as many people that are willing and Kathy will transcribe as many as she is able before the celebration. We would like to have them in written form, as well as on an SD card, because who knows what kind of technology will be around in the future(!)

Joining the Church St. Cyril's Day/Bishop's Visit

Our annual St. Cyril's Day celebration will arrive with a special twist this year. It is the 50th anniversary of the merging of St. Cyril's Episcopal Church with Episcopal Church of the Trinity. Former Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold will be present with us to celebrate the Eucharist, preach and confirm/receive new members on June 25th. What a great day to confirm new members!

If you are interested in officially joining Trinity Church, let either Deacon Joan or Pastor Sherry know. We will be holding a session about the Episcopal Church (The Discovery Series: A Christian Journey) on Sunday, June 11 after the church service (a light lunch will be provided). This is a presentation about the Episcopal Church – covering the Roots of Ministry, Episcopal Worship, The Book of Common Prayer, An Instructed Eucharist, What We Believe – Our Creeds, and our Baptismal Covenant. This is open to anyone who is interested. If you would just like a refresher on the Episcopal Church, please join us!

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the merger of St. Cyril's and Trinity, we will be holding a luncheon after the church service on June 25th. Let's make this a 'homecoming' for those who attending St. Cyril's many years ago. Mark the date on your calendar!

New Alarm System and Entry

Trinity will be upgrading our smoke alarm system to include a burglar alarm system. Along with a new alarm system, we will be obtaining new front doors (the current wooden doors are rotting at the bottom) and a key card or key fob entry system. With an alarm system, anyone who enters the building during non-regular times will need to enter through the new doors located at the center of our plant (by the social hall) in order to deactivate the alarm. Pastor Sherry is creating a list of people who will need new key cards/fobs to get in the building. If you will be in need of getting into the building during "off" times, please give your name to Pastor Sherry or Jamoca Harkins (parish administrator).



What's Cookin' in Coatesville/Parents Night Out

Our free healthy meal for the community is being served once again on Thursday, May 6 at 6 p.m. This month features Sloppy Joes, Sweet Potato Fries and Mixed Berry Cobbler for dessert. Our presenter this month comes from Crime Victims Center will be talking to us about Bullying and Being Safe on the Internet. If you would like to volunteer to help serve and clean up, please arrive at 5:45 p.m. or simply join us for a good healthy meal.

Report – Moral Injury

On Tuesday, March 21st, the Diocese sponsored a workshop at the Phila. VA Medical Center. The title was “Conference of Healing/Interactions with Veterans”. The morning session was conducted by Chris Antal, Staff Chaplain, and Rotunda East, Clinical Chaplain. They were every effective in informing us of research and discovery, and therapies involved with veteran care. Deacon Joan Wylie, Joe & Pat Kirkner attended from Trinity.

This is the first time that many of us were introduced to the concept of “Moral Injury”, which in simplest terms, is a “betrayal of what’s right; a transgressed moral belief.” For a veteran in crisis, PTSD is expanded to include “soul distress” and “social disorder”.

The VA is seeking further interdisciplinary collaboration between chaplains and psychologist, as the VA advises that recovery from moral injury only happens in community.

Later in the morning we joined in a “Community Healing Ceremony” in the VA chapel. Music, readings, and a “reconciliation circle” were part of the ceremony. Veterans present were asked to share their burden. All who spoke were from the Vietnam era – still suffering; still broken. I was reminded of the 1999 movie, “The Straight Story”; an old WWII veteran drives his John Deere lawn tractor from Iowa to Wisconsin to visit his dying brother. He stops at VFWs along the way, and 50+ years after their service, still cries with fellow veterans over trauma and innocence lost.

The goal of this workshop was to learn ways to develop empathy and build the capacity of faith leaders to help restore broken social contact of our veterans. During and after lunch, we spoke with Rev. Wm. Sowards and John Caruso of St. James Episcopal in Collegeville about their Vets in Recovery program. This is a weekly meeting to help Veterans dealing with alcoholism, drug addiction, PTSD, TBI and other issues related to military service.

The afternoon was spent with a panel of VA employees who informed us of the many services available to veterans and how to help veterans access these resources.

There is another Community Healing Ceremony scheduled for May 8th at 4:30 at the VA, Phila. I am hoping to attend; let me know if you would consider going also. Sincerely, Pat Kirkner



Lunch Prep for Good Works Volunteers

On Saturday, May 13th we'll be preparing lunches again for the volunteer crews of workers for Good Works ministry. These folks volunteer a weekend day frequently to rehab homes in the Coatesville area. The goal is to make the homes "warmer, safer and drier" for low-income families and seniors.

We furnish lunch for the crews and homeowner families one Saturday per year. The folks are grateful to see lunch arrive, and excited to see what they're getting.

We'll do the preparation and assembly in the church kitchen, and deliver to the three work sites this year, all in Indian Run Trailer Park on Route 82 N.

It's fun work (we always have fun in the kitchen!) and fast. If we meet in the kitchen at 10:00 am we can easily deliver and be finished by 12:00 noon.

Please volunteer to purchase and drop off specific items (I'll let you know what's needed) ahead of time, labeling them so they don't get used by other groups. Or, for the real fun, volunteer to arrive at 10:00 am and prep and wrap and pack.

To volunteer: 1) Signup sheet at coffee hour 2) Call me at 610-357-3269(cell) 3) E-mail me at joanwylie@gmail.com

Thanks.



Women's Group Annual Flea Market, Etc.

Although an exact date hasn't been picked yet, the women will be holding their annual flea market in August. So now is a good time to start collecting your unwanted items for donation to our market. Please peruse your attics, garages and basements for things you no longer use, but may be the perfect find for another. We will soon set-up a room in the church basement for gathering your donations, so stay tuned to future Trinity Topics.

We are also looking into other events and fund-raisers for this summer and fall. Suggestions have been a Paint and Potluck luncheon on a Sunday in June or July; a Tea Party Extravaganza in Sept. and a LaRue fashion show, soon.



Secret Sisters Reveal

On Sunday evening, April 23rd, current and future Secret Sisters of Trinity gathered at Pam Smyth's home for our annual reveal party and submitting of new sisters. Ten ladies attended and enjoyed a meal of chicken skewers, brisket, shrimp, chicken salad, chip and dip, salad, and fruit. Thank you, Pam, for being a kind and gracious hostess. We have sixteen participants for our 2017/2018 year. We look forward to this special way of sharing fellowship, kindness, and prayer.



Veterans Brunch – April 30, 2017

At the time of this publication, our brunch is the coming Sunday. And, as always, we are expecting a nice turn out from our veterans and volunteers.

This month's menu options will be scrambled eggs; bacon; pancakes with a flair; pork loin; roasted potatoes with onions; homemade baked beans, spaghetti with turkey meat sauce; various side dishes; fresh fruit; breads; desserts; juice, coffee and water.

A special thanks to Diane and Kevin Evans who represented Trinity at the Voluntary Service Award Luncheon on April 22, 2017 at the Coatesville VA Medical Center. We were recognized for our monthly brunch, and given time to speak on our behalf. Thanks Diane and Kevin.

God Bless our monthly brunch and God Bless America.

-Brunch Bunch



150th Anniversary Meeting – April 23, 2017

Another good turn out with much input and enthusiasm from our members.

Marshall Evans highlighted the key issues to be discussed and finalized for our Saturday evening dinner at Runnymede; i.e., bathroom facilities, alcohol, transportation to and from the church and who would require it. Rough numbers will be discussed at May's meeting.

History gathering and accumulating of historical photos, literature, artifacts, etc. will be discussed and brought to life in the upcoming months. If you have a contribution you would like to offer, please advise at our meetings.

We currently need volunteers to investigate time periods of 1901-1925; 1926-1950; 1951-1975; 1976-2000; 2001-present. We want to gather significant events during these years, so we can include them in a timeline chart that will hang in Stone Hall; hopefully for the entire 2018 year.

We have put a lot of effort into what has been accomplished thus far, but still need more help in making this an anniversary to remember. See Joe Kirkner for how you can help.

History Trivia: Did you know that in 1942 a War Service Altar was erected at the Baptistry area, where private prayers could be offered for nearly 50 young men and women in the military? Their names are commemorated on the south wall of the nave on the bronze plaque.

More trivia to follow in the upcoming months.

-Joe Kirkner, Chair

150 Years of Faith in Coatesville



Carl Croft	2-May
Michael Luke Fazio	5-May
Beatrix Kirwin	6-May
Connor Jay McWilliams	11-May
Greg Bentley	12-May
Ray Hulse	17-Mayr
Elizabeth Hanley	23-May
Jack McGovern	24-May
Zoe McGovern	24-May
Debra Tillotson	27-May
Kathleen Price	28- May
Beth Fazio	29-May
Al Carey Sr.	30-May

11-May	Josh & Kristin Busch
26-May	John & Marion Kirwin

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
				HE Chapel- 12Noon What's Cookin' in Coatesville- 6PM		SH Rented
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
SH Rented	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL		HE Chapel- 12Noon		SH Rented Good Works- Lunch Prep 10AM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
SH Rented	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL Rev. Sherry Away	Rev. Sherry Away	HE Chapel- 12Noon Rev. Sherry Away		SH Rented
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Vestry Meeting	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL		HE Chapel – 12Noon Pastoral Care Team Meeting 1230PM		SH Rented
28	29	30	31			
Vet Brunch	OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL				



Readers, Servers and Greeters for May 2017



Date	Readers	Psalter/P-O-P	Chalists	Servers	Torches	Greeters
5/7	Chris Haak	N/A	Jim Anderson	Pat Kirkner	N/A	TBA
	Vic Shanley	Pam Smyth	Al Carey	Pat Kirkner	N/A	
5/14	Violet Armstead	N/A	Lon Cross	Seth Haak	N/A	TBA
	Kent Nation	Bill Terry	Pam Smyth	Bill Terry	N/A	
5/21	Craig McGovern	N/A	Pat Kirkner	Jack McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Lon Cross	Seth Haak	Bill Terry	Bill Terry	N/A	
5/28	Caroline Bentley	N/A	Jim Anderson	Zoey McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Jim Anderson	Donna Puma	Al Carey	Bill Terry	N/A	

CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320-3409

For more information

contact:

The Reverend Sherry Deets, Rector

610-384-4771

trinitycoates@aol.com

Website:

www.trinitycoatesville.org

Jamoca Harkins, Parish Administrator

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday

8AM—12PM

Thursday 9AM—12PM

Mission Statement

Church of the Trinity is a congregation rooted in the faith and love of Christ, unified in diversity, seeking to grow and nourish the Trinity family and our Coatesville community.

Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

Sundays 9:30 AM

Thursdays 12:00 PM

Church School

Sundays 9:15 AM

Bible Study

Mondays 7:00 PM

**THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320-3409**