



# Trinity Topics

## From the Rector's Desk . . .

### By the Reverend Sherry Deets

As summer begins to fade into a new season, and we rekindle our energies and focus on developing our Thistle Hills ministry, I'd like to share an excerpt from Becca Stevens' book, *Letters from the Farm: A Simple Path for a Deeper Spiritual Life*. She entitles this "You Are What You Grow" and it is based on one of my favorite verses from scripture, Isaiah 40:31 "But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

We don't always pray what we believe; sometimes we pray what we hope to believe. This letter is a reminder that our lives become what we grow. In my life I have learned to plant and to pray love is the most powerful force for change in the world. I have tried to raise this belief daily in my work and prayer life. Because I have longed to believe that for so long, I am coming to believe it more and more. I have learned slowly but surely to believe that hearts don't break. They pour out like a flooded river forgetting her boundaries, upturning old oaks and turning fallow fields into ponds. Hearts pouring out flood us with tenderness and tears as their unstoppable force draws us in. When hearts pour out, it is possible to imagine that justice can follow in its wake.

Isaiah's heart did not break amidst the pain of banishment and the loss of his nation. Instead, in words and deeds, he poured out his heart to God for never abandoning the people. Isaiah reminds us even in our doubt, we can be faithful—even in our weariness, we can be strong. Isaiah's life is like a rushing river whose course carved its own path deeper and wider as the rains came.

Prophets and disciples pour their hearts out with an unwavering belief that this torrent of love is strong enough to change the world. Their meandering path from calling to vocation as a voice for love and justice may begin as winding as a river, but it makes its way toward stronger waters. Their witness to love itself is beyond measure, exposing the old stone bedrock of our hearts. The ancient and modern disciples open the flood gates of generosity, compassion and tenderness so no one has to live in isolation, cynicism, or fear.

This story of love poured out like a river has continued down through the ages and remains the powerful calling of our lives. Martin Luther King Jr. practiced throughout his life the tremendous power of love. On the day before his assassination he spoke to a community in Tennessee of Amos's call for justice to roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. Then he told his audience that when God calls, we need to be with Amos and the prophets who speak faithfully of love and justice. Dr. King used the term *ahimsa*, made

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famous in the West by Gandhi during the movement to free India. The term means that within each of us there is a nonviolent soul force. *Ahimsa* is as old and deep as the waters running through this earth. It is the basis for the message of Jesus, the Buddha, and all the prophets. Love is a force as old as the earth and when it is poured out for the world, nothing can stop it.

The harsh realities and hurt imposed by violence, poverty, trafficking, racism, disease, and frailty cannot break hearts. I know love is stronger than that. When Thistle Farms started to make healing oils, we chose *ahimsa*, the soul force of love, as our first blend. We have tried to be a witness to love's force. There have been seasons when the creek bed was dry, but we went on faith that water was running somewhere. Other times we have witnessed love pouring like the glory of a rushing river. I now sit in our meditation circle at Thistle Farms and marvel at a room packed with folks from England, Iceland, Bolivia, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Georgia. They have come to sit with us and hear our healing message of love. One woman said she drove from Kentucky for "a cup of coffee and a good word." People are thirsty for the waters pouring from the river of love where the promise of justice lives.

Let us pledge our whole lives to pouring our love out for the sake of the whole world. Not because we believe it, but because we want to become love and believe in its transformative power in this world. Growing powerful love is how we live into the truth of the prophecies of Isaiah, Martin, and the community of Thistle Farms. Let us pour out our love as we embark to spread this good news of *ahimsa*. We are living proof that the war on poverty and for freedom is still being waged in the name of love. We are a living testimony, as long as we keep preaching every day of our lives in our words and deeds that love is the most powerful force for social change in the world.

Questions for reflection:

Where does *ahimsa* flow within you?

What time of doubt in your life eventually brought you clarity and strength?

## **Gentle Yoga at Trinity**

Nancy Murphy will be leading us in Gentle Yoga in our social hall again beginning in September. Stay tuned for her return appearance!

## **Pastoral Care Team Meeting**

Our Pastoral Care Team will meet on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. (after the noon service)

## **Gail Craven, Organist and Choirmaster, Retiring**

It is with sadness that we share that Gail Craven, our wonderful organist and choirmaster, is retiring. Her last official Sunday with us will be September 1<sup>st</sup> after eight years of supporting us well in our worship experiences. A "retirement party" is in the works for that Sunday's coffee hour. Help us to say thank you and Godspeed.



**August 2, 2019, 3 – 6pm  
Scott Middle School  
800 Olive Street, Coatesville**

**The 7th Annual Coatesville Back to School Event is almost here!**

**Please join our efforts as we prepare to provide 1,500 book bags filled with school supplies for K-12 grade students in the Coatesville Area School District.**

**Your donations and support are invaluable so that we can empower families and equip students for school success. Help us encourage them to have an amazing school year!**

**Community based organizations will also be at the event to speak with families about community services, nutrition services, after-school programs, and college prep. There will be healthy activities and family friendly fun.**

**Donations can be dropped off at the [Bridge Academy & Community Center](#) and the [Coatesville Youth Initiative](#)**

**[Make a financial donation](#) to purchase school supplies for children in our community**

**For more details, go to the Coatesville Youth Initiative website at :  
<https://coatesvilleyouthinitiative.org>**

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Each Sunday, we remember someone by placing flowers on the altar and acknowledging that person(s) or occasion on or near a specific and meaningful date. Your support of this ministry is appreciated and we hope meaningful to those who take advantage of it.

Now we are in need of your help.....the paper mache insert (the jardinière) in the vase holding the flowers is becoming a very rare commodity as fewer florists are using them. Our need for them is still high, however, due to the size of our vases into which the jardinière fits perfectly.

That said, your help in returning these to Trinity would be most appreciated. Coatesville Flower Shop purchased two cases of them five years ago, but our supply has dwindled to about a half dozen. I am working with Greg DePedro from the shop to search out a floral distributor who might still have them. In the meantime, if you are taking flowers with you after service, maybe you can bring with you that plastic container you got the potato salad or wonton soup in and leave the jardinières at church. Every repurposed one is a big help!  
Thanks for giving this your attention.

Vic Shanley, Altar Flowers



### **Veterans Brunch – July 28, 2019**

**A TYPICAL VETERANS BRUNCH** = Our monthly brunches are always planned out and started at least a week before the scheduled event and this month was no exception. Normally, an inventory is taken prior to doing the shopping, to determine what's needed and what needs to be replaced.

Once the menu has been designed, items are added to the list of things to be purchased. Volunteers offer to provide menu items during the many phone calls and texts. Outside sources provide cost saving contributions; especially Wegman's and Beaver Creek Tavern.

Our volunteers each month help to do tasks; with or without being asked. Some are from neighboring Episcopal churches like Advent and St. Andrews; even other denominations; some are neighbors and friends of Trinity, such as Donna Schneider, Coleen Beckershoff, Rachel & Mason Kirkner. Many of our brunch members have been with us since our 1<sup>st</sup> brunch, June 2013. Our volunteers are the backbone of this successful outreach.

Our menu this month was scrambled eggs, bacon, French toast, hamburgers, hotdogs, BBQ chicken, corn on the cob, baked beans with a flair, coleslaw, potato salad, fresh fruit, breads, desserts, juice, water and coffee. We served 35 veterans, and had 29 volunteers, which included ones who donated homemade goods, set-up the hall, or came at the end to clean-up.

God Bless our Vets, Trinity members and friends, and God Bless America. –The Brunch Bunch





## **WOMEN'S GROUP**

It is August! What makes summer go so fast? Hoping everyone is making plans to support our annual flea market, and the Fundraising Committee's Chicken BBQ on August 17<sup>th</sup>. We have gathered many fine items for sale at excellent prices! If you or someone you know is setting up housekeeping or leaving for college, tell them to stop by and check out our offerings. 9:00-3:00

Still looking for volunteer sign-ups, too. And every Wednesday night, from now until 8/14, we will be in the basement from 5:00-7:00 PM, pricing articles. This is Trinity's annual event; we need to make it a success and be visible in the larger community. Also, if you know someone who wants to have their own table at the market, we are still taking reservations for that too. Please show up!

-Pat Kirkner, President Women's Group



## **CHICKEN BARBEQUE**

Get your \$10.00 tickets for the Chicken BBQ from any member of the Women's Group or Fundraising Group for our August 17<sup>th</sup> sale. For only \$10, you will get a meal that includes: half a chicken, baked potato, green beans, coleslaw, roll, and butter. The church office will have some available, also. Buy yours' early; help us make this another successful event. Now's the time to tell your friends, family, and neighbors about this scrumptious meal! They can be picked up from 11:00-4:00.



# Flea Market

9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

## Chicken Barbeque

11:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Price: \$10.00 per meal

Meal includes: half a chicken, baked potato,  
green beans, coleslaw, roll, butter

Hot dogs (\$1.00) and cold drinks (50 cents)

available from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Bring your neighbors and friends for some good bargain  
shopping and great food

## Saturday August 17, 2019

## Episcopal Church of the Trinity

323 East Lincoln Highway

Coatesville, PA 19320

610-384-4771

Home of the Coatesville Community Garden





Barbara Chatman-Royce	1-Aug
John Petura	5-Aug
Susan Petura	7-Aug
Maureen Evans	16-Aug
Ashlyn Saylor	17-Aug
Marie Price	19-Aug
Abrielle Butler	23-Aug
Jacqueline Heston	24-Aug
Caroline Bentley	24-Aug
Cheryl Robinson	29-Aug

Joseph & Pat Kirkner	6-Aug
William & Kathy Terry	8-Aug
Maitland & Esther Harvey	21-Aug

**Congratulations Corner!!!!**

# August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				HE Chapel- 12noon		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				HE Chapel- 12noon		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
				HE Chapel- 12noon		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				HE Chapel- 12noon		Chicken BBQ & Flea Market
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Vet Brunch				HE Chapel- 12noon		SH Rented



## Readers, Servers and Greeters for August 2019



Date	Readers	Psalter/P-O-P	Chalists	Servers	Torches	Greeters
8/4	Jim Anderson		Pat Kirkner	Pat Kirkner	N/A	TBA
	Seth Haak	Pam Smyth	Pam Smyth	Pat Kirkner	N/A	
8/11	Vic Shanley	Craig McGovern	Bill Terry	Jim Anderson	N/A	TBA
	Caroline Bentley	Kent Nation	Jim Anderson	Jim Anderson	N/A	
8/18	Jim Anderson	Caroline Bentley	Al Carey	Al Carey	N/A	TBA
	Violet Armstead	Bill Terry	Donna Fleck	Al Carey	N/A	
8/25		Betty Sullivan	Pat Kirkner	Seth Haak	N/A	TBA
	Chris Haak	Pam Smyth	Pam Smyth	Pat Kirkner	N/A	



**CHURCH OF THE TRINITY**

323 East Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, PA 19320-3409

**For more information**

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**The Reverend Sherry Deets, Rector**

**610-384-4771**

**trinitycoates@aol.com**

**Website:**

**www.trinitycoatesville.org**

**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**

**Jamoca Harkins,  
Parish Administrator**

**Parish Office Hours:**

**Monday-Thursday: 130-430pm**

**Friday: 9am-12pm**

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

**Church School**

**Sundays: 9:15 AM**

