



Trinity Topics

From the Rector's Desk . . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

Dear Friends,

We are still taking each day as it comes, continuing to live in the midst of this pandemic which is anxiety producing and tiring. We remain in a state of vulnerability that many of us are not comfortable in. It is not in our nature to want to be vulnerable. Brene Brown speaks in her book, *Daring Greatly*, of 'minding the gap'. Minding the gap is a daring strategy. The phrase "Mind the Gap" first appeared in 1969 on the London Underground as a warning to train passengers to be careful while stepping over the gap between the train door and the station platform. Brene is suggesting that we have to pay attention to the space between where we're actually standing and where we want to be. More importantly, we have to practice the values that we're holding out as important in our culture. Minding the gap requires an embrace of our own vulnerability.

So, where do we want to go from here? How do we mind the gap? What is our game plan? I know I have been thinking about those questions for my own personal life and the life of Trinity. Trinity is a wonderfully diverse and loving community. We don't want to leave that behind; we want to take that part of our culture with us when we step over the gap.

In our Vestry meetings over that last few months, we had realized very quickly that the changes regarding technology necessary for Trinity are here to stay. We will continue our live-streaming of services long after COVID-19 safety restrictions have been removed and we have found that technology such as Zoom is very helpful for bringing people to a meeting from a distance. We are also exploring a contemporary worship service which we can put together through the use of our technology and can be viewed via computer in the same way as you are able to view our regular Sunday service. This may be another offering of Trinity in addition to our traditional worship service in the future, as we step over the gap. We will be looking forward to this exploration of a different style of worship and reactions to it.

I would also like us to come together to explore systemic racism and how we can be instrumental in dismantling the long held system in our larger community(ies). If you feel called to be a part of this leadership team, please contact me. Let's 'mind the gap' and pay attention to the space between where we're actually standing and where we want to be.

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I share again a prayer from Becca Stevens for when we feel vulnerable:

*Compassionate God, speak to me in whispers and sweet silence.
This day has left me so tender a breeze could break my heart.
Be present as I take my rest, and visit me with kind angels.
In my resting, strengthen my desire for courage.
Enkindle my heart to face the worries of a new day.
Inspire me with a new thought to carry me through.
Renew a right spirit within me to fight injustice.
Let me tears be a sign of compassion, not weariness.
Let my grief be a sign of my love, not my despair.
You are the Holy One who knows that in my weakness,
I find Your strength.
Amen.*

Vestry Meeting July 19

Vestry meetings usually take a break in July and August, but with the constantly changing environment, your Vestry thought it would be good to meet on our regular third Sunday on July 19th at 11:15 a.m. The Vestry will be meeting in person in our social hall with masks and distance between. We will be setting up a laptop for those who wish to attend virtually via Zoom.

Church Office Closed on Monday, July 6

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 6th for the July 4th holiday.

THANK YOU!!

A great big THANK YOU!!! to our faithful lawn mowers of Trinity. We currently have long-time church grounds lawn mower Al Carey to thank and some new additions to the volunteer crew. Paul Cox is mowing the Community Garden and Joe Kirkner is mowing the Thistle Hills house lawn.

Limited In-Person Worship

Trinity began limited, in-person worship on June 21st following our safety protocols/plan put in place to minimize risk. Our Bishop has made the decision that our Diocese will NOT move into the green stage until August 1 at the earliest. Therefore, we will continue to limit our attendance on Sundays to 25 or fewer people gathered in the sanctuary until further notice.

It is important to know that coming to church on Sunday morning is completely up to you. There is no pressure to do so until you feel ready. We will continue to live-stream our services.

Please note that we will need you to call the church office (610) 384-4771 or send an email (trinitycoates@aol.com) in order to “reserve” a place in the sanctuary. This is our way to keep our numbers to 25 or less, without having to turn someone away at the door. If you call for a reservation and we happen to have 25 people already reserved, you will be first on the list for the following Sunday.

Please review the following plan and if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the church office or send an email. As has been customary during this unusual time, the plan will remain subject to change.

Episcopal Church of the Trinity, Coatesville COVID-19 Reentry Plan

We will adhere to the following guidelines for the opening of the church building. This outlines the beginning stage as we ‘phase-in’ and as the risk minimizes, we will adapt. The plan is subject to change based on recommendations from health and government officials.

Worship

- We will continue to offer services via live-stream for those who are at high risk or simply not comfortable coming to the service in person.
- We will be taking reservations ahead of time for those who wish to attend in-person worship, as we are limited to 25 or less in our gathering. Please contact the church office at 610-384-4771 or send an email to trinitycoates@aol.com for reservations for the upcoming Sunday.
- Masks should be worn in the church and if someone arrives without one, a mask will be provided.
- We will maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet apart within the worship space. This means that individuals or members of the same household will need to sit every other pew. Each pew is sixteen feet long, so one household unit will sit at each end of that long pew. We are limited to gatherings of 25 or less during the yellow phase. Ushers will be present for direction on seating.
- Usher(s) will be present at entry to ensure masks are worn, attendance records are kept, seating is appropriately social distanced and proper sanitizing upon entry has occurred.
- Singing is among the riskier behaviors when it comes to spreading droplets or aerosols, so the choir will not be gathering together to sing anthems. There will be no singing in the pews (humming is permissible). Solos will be a possible replacement of anthems with the soloist at an appropriate distance from any other people.
- No touch passing of the peace, we may wave at each other or bow to each other.

- No touch collection. The offering plates will be available near the red entry doors to the sanctuary.
- Offering communion will be in one kind – wafers/bread, no common cup. We will continue to pray the prayer of Spiritual communion for those who do not wish to receive communion and for those who are watching online. (Hand sanitizer just before administering communion, no common chalice, masks are worn) Usher(s) will coordinate single file, appropriately distanced, communion line.
- Upon entering the sanctuary/church building, please stand six feet from the person or family unit in front of you until entryway is clear. Exiting the sanctuary will be coordinated by the Usher(s) in order to ensure proper distancing. Staggered exiting, both doors utilized.
- No coffee hour, no food preparation until risk is minimized. Instead, socially distanced time for chatting can happen on the front lawn after service for those who wish to do so.

Small Groups/Sunday School/Nursery

- Small groups of 10 or less can begin to gather in the social hall, with appropriate distancing and the wearing of masks. It is also appropriate to continue meeting virtually.
- Sunday school does not meet in the summer and there will be no nursery care.

Church Business

- Regular office functions could resume more or less safely while maintaining social distancing and wearing masks. Continue to attend to cleaning and sanitizing the office. Pay particular attention to high-touch surfaces and cleaning hands after dealing with the offering.
- Church leadership teams of less than 10 might consider meeting in person while wearing masks and maintaining social distancing, or continue meeting online.
- Hold off on allowing building users/renters to resume operations until further notice. (Renters will need a plan to address cleaning needs and written agreement to observe gathering and distancing protocols, when we begin to allow rentals of our space).

General Building

- Maintain a good stock of tissue, soap, hand sanitizer, disposable gloves and disinfectant wipes.
- Clean the building regularly and between user groups, paying extra attention to high-touch surfaces. Trinity has one Sunday service; therefore, the sanctuary's regular cleaning schedule of Saturday evening remains appropriate.

- If you become aware of someone in the church or a building user infected with COVID-19, notify the church office immediately and cooperate fully with contact tracers.
- High risk individuals, whether staff, volunteers, or program participants, should continue to shelter in place. If you are not feeling well, please stay home.

Thistle Hills Update

The Thistle Hills board and supporters have remained safely active during our pandemic. Zoom meetings can be a wonderful thing!

- ❖ Thistle Hills now has a beautiful house that the women will be able to call home.
- ❖ Untuck Design Studio based in Paoli has been working with the Thistle Hills board to brand and create a logo, marketing materials and website. We are thrilled that this creative work is nearing official release.
- ❖ The Chester County Department of Community Development, with the approval of the County Commissioners, has approved an additional \$23,000 for the grant to purchase the house totaling \$323,000 (this additional money covers the \$5,000 purchase price over \$300,00 and closing costs).
- ❖ We recently received a second grant from the Stewart Huston Charitable Trust of \$15,000 toward start-up costs. Last year's grant was for \$7,500. We are thrilled that the Trustees have joined in our vision and are assisting Thistle Hills in becoming a reality.
- ❖ Thistle Farms staff in Nashville have also been assisting us with questions and advice.
- ❖ We have a team with decorating expertise working on furnishing the new house.
- ❖ We are now searching for an Executive Director/Program Director for Thistle Hills and are striving to welcome our first women Survivors to Thistle Hills by year end.

As we continue on this journey, there will be various opportunities for you to become involved with your time and/or financial contributions.

At this time, financial contributions are very welcome and needed as we will incur heavy one-time start-up costs, such as an alarm system, additional furnishings for the home, office equipment for the incoming Executive Director, printing of marketing materials, costs related to setting up the social enterprise, etc. If you would like to contribute to Thistle Hills, you may visit the church website www.trinitycoatesville.org and click on the Thistle Hills box. You will find a link to donate that takes you directly to Capstone Legacy Foundation who is acting as our fiscal agent until Thistle Hills receives its own 501(c)3 designation. Your contribution to Capstone for the benefit of Thistle Hills is tax deductible and you will receive a letter from them to that effect. Any amount is helpful! No contribution is too small!

At this time, we want to give a huge THANK YOU! to the following supporters of the vision and start-up of Thistle Hills. These generous contributions are bringing a vision into reality and will make a difference in allowing the Survivors of trafficking, abuse and addiction to transform and reclaim their lives:

Chester County Department of Community Development	\$323,000 (house)
Greg and Caroline Bentley	\$100,000

Stewart Huston Charitable Trust	\$22,500
John Miller	\$3,500
Meg Devereux	\$50
Elizabeth Fielding-Oliver's Family Foundation	\$6,000
Meg Devereux in honor of Nancy Murphy (Yoga Instructor)	\$100
Untuck Design Studio for their considerable work of love in branding/marketing offered "gratis"	

Cards for VA Residents

We have been asked by Bishop Gutierrez to send greeting cards to residents at assisted-living and nursing homes, since those folks can't have visitors because of Covid-19. And what residence is nearer to us than the Coatesville VA? There are about 60 permanent residents.

If Trinity members can send greeting cards ("thinking of you," "I care about you", "you're my hero") to vets there, I hear that the vets would love them. ("Get well soon" cards would not be helpful, because these permanent residents are not going to recover from their conditions.)

What to say? The above suggestions, or anything light and friendly. You can talk about yourself or your family a little, and talk about the things you've been doing. This might awaken some happy memories for the vets: frisbee, hot dogs, picnicking, your pets, watching old movies. You might include a joke or a riddle. Kids' drawings (or yours!) or origami could be folded and included. And you can sign your name, perhaps just your first name if you're concerned. Next, an envelope for the card.

Then what? Drop your cards off at the church, using the mail slot at the top of the ramp. No one will breath or cough on you that way! The cards will be collected in manila envelopes and picked up by Jennifer Grubb, who is a nurse at the VA, and delivered. The Voluntary Services office there will address the cards to the individuals, and distribute them. They will even read them to the vets when necessary.

Resource: use Google to find "Avery Greeting Cards," or "Americangreetings.com" and from there, "printable cards." You will be able to print in color with an inkjet printer. Or, just make your own cards from scratch.

Hooray for our vets!

FUNDRAISING/WOMEN'S GROUP

As we enter into Phase Green, it's time to ease back into some of those things that were a part of our old normal at Trinity. And what better than a good, old-fashioned fundraiser!

What would summer at Trinity be without our signature Chicken Barbecue? That's right, this year will be no exception as Team Chicken presents its annual fare, headlined by our own "Sultan of Slather", Al Carey, who transforms an ordinary chicken dinner into a juicy, mouthwatering, spicy summer treat with his "secret sauce". The date is Sat, Aug 15, and we'll be prepared to "open the doors" at 10am and run til 5pm.

This year, it's been decided that the Chicken Barbecue will stand on its own without the Flea Market and hot dogs on the lawn. Further, the entire event will be CDC and Diocese compliant in light of the pandemic. Moreover, Rev. Sherry has had a conversation with the County Health Department and tells

me that they are pleased with our plan to ensure a safe and compliant event. With the exception of the kitchen team, everything will be curb/ramp side and all takeout with no eating inside or out while on Trinity property.

And not unlike years past, our team welcomes new members who would like to donate some time, either in the kitchen or at the cashier table or as a runner carrying the dinners out to the buyers. We're not suggesting a full day's work from everyone, but rather being available to spell your fellow team member for a couple of hours. So, if you'd like to lend a hand, email or call me and I'll be happy and grateful to sign you up.

I'm excited as always at the opportunity to put on an event that reaches out to our community while contributing to the welfare of our church. Mark your calendars now and plan dinner for that evening by ordering in advance or by sharing in the gratification and satisfaction of being a part of Team Chicken!

Thank you and stay well.....Vic Shanley, Team Chicken



Molly Beck	4-July
Ian Post	7-July
Margaret Bragg	7-July
Ruth Gardiner	8-July
James Anderson	10-July
Kathy Terry	11-July
Violet Cole	14-July
Elinor Barnes	17-July
Noreen Bush	19-July
Judy Vennell	21-July
Phyllis Boyd	21-July
Sara Smyth	23-July
Michael Crane	23-July
Caitlyn Hanna	24-July
Lance Bush	27-July
Ellanore Hurd	29-July

John and Susan Petura 12-July

Congratulations Corner!!!!

July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Office Closed					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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

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 & Wednesday: 930am-130pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 330-530pm
Friday: 930am-1230pm

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

Church School

Sundays: 9:15 AM