

Trinity Topics

From the Rector's Desk . . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

Dear Friends,

Fall is soon upon us with its crisp breezes that I find so refreshing. School has started up again, the church "program year" is beginning anew, and therefore, the Fall season always make me think of change, of the life journey. I picked up Becca Stevens book "Hither & Yon: A Travel Guide for the Spiritual Journey" to look through and share with you the wisdom from the chapter entitled *The Bathroom at the Vatican*:

My family went to Rome to visit the Vatican. Even though I have been washed in its images for as long as I can remember, I wanted the experience of standing in the midst of it.

It was already hot when we got in line, under the shadow of forty-foot saints and rulers, to pass through the metal detector. Once through, we passed the famous brass doors by Bernini and decided to head up the circular stairway into the cupola. There was another line. During the hour-long wait on the huge, circular staircase, we sipped water and slowly passed by mosaics and famous statues in which the Holy Spirit was represented in the finest stone. We reached the top, looked at the magnificence and power of the cupola from on high, and then wandered onto the catwalk of St. Peter's dome. As we looked down on the grandest church in the entire world, I found it literally breathtaking. Wandering the rooftop, we enjoyed the cooler air and the backs of the heads of the sculptures that looked out from the roof.

I walked to a back corner of the roof, and there I met the woman who cleans the bathroom at the top of St. Peter's. I was the only person there. The woman genuflected to the paper towel holder she was

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restocking and then handed me a clean towel. Her vestment was a blue jumpsuit. To me, her actions felt similar to foot washing. "Grazie," I said, and made a little bow. Somehow tending the bathrooms there seemed like sacred work, and I wanted to honor her role.

As we descended the stairway, circling around and around, I wondered why the woman's role as a bathroom attendant at the Vatican seemed nobler than cleaning the bathroom at a gas station. In my heart, I do not believe that the ground at the Vatican is more sacred than a prison or a forest. I do not believe that breaking bread and sipping wine there is holier than when I perform that act out in the world. If it is true that our work and the sacred nature of our lives are not dictated by where we are, then wherever we are is holy. We do not need to take a purse or a special tunic on our journey, because the walk itself is sacred; and the gifts and treasures that are holy cannot be bought or sold.

The path of the cleaning woman at the top of the Vatican was sacred not because of its location but because it was a path of service. In the midst of great power and circumstance, surrounded by roads paved with marble and gold, she was the disciple calling me back to the path of humility that is found only in service.

Trinity's Annual "Rally Day" **Sunday, September 17th**

We will be holding our worship service at **10:30 a.m.** outdoors at the Bentley Farm with a catered lunch to follow. This is a wonderful opportunity for Trinity family and friends to come together in a beautiful setting for worship, a meal and activities for the whole family. Mark your calendars now! Transportation can be arranged.

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Trinity **Thursday, September 21 from 1 – 6 p.m. in our social hall**

Our Blood Saves Lives. And did you know that one in 3 African American blood donors is a match for a patient with sickle cell disease. Are you that one? Schedule your appointment to donate today. **Sign up through Trinity's website:**

www.trinitycoatesville.org

Chester County Sheriff's Office Warns Against Another Rash of Phone Scams

WEST CHESTER, PA – August 28, 2023 – The Chester County Sheriff's Office is warning residents about another round of recurring phone scams involving false fines for failure to report to jury duty or other court appointments.

The Sheriff's Office has received numerous calls noting that the fraudulent calls seeking money are very convincing. For some, the caller ID shows *Chester County Sheriff's Office*.

In addition to the caller ID displaying the Sheriff's Office, scammers may use the name of a current Chester County judge and names of current or former sheriff deputies. Fraudsters may demand gift cards or urgent special bank transfers, claiming that the recipient was required to show up for jury duty, a meeting or conference. Callers deliver ultimatums including imminent arrest or loss of property for lack of immediate payment.

One individual lost \$5,000 by responding to a false claim of missing a bail conference. Chester County detectives are investigating.

The Chester County Sheriff's Office will never call and request immediate gift card payments or cash transfers for missing jury duty or other similar fines. If you receive such a request by phone, hang up. And if you are unsure about the legitimacy of a call requesting immediate payment or fine, please call local law enforcement, or the Chester County Sheriff's Office at 610-344-6850.

Sept. 14 – 16 for 7th Annual Coatesville Invitational Vintage Grand Prix!

The City takes center stage from September 14 to 16 when it hosts the Coatesville Invitational Vintage Grand Prix one of the most iconic motorsport events in the country. It's a rare chance to see up to 75 unique vintage race cars and motorcycles perform. A new feature this year, the 1st Annual Vintage Auto/Moto Show, will be held just steps away.

The fun unfolds at the **PrixView Party Thursday, September 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** at the historic Brooklawn home of Crosby and Nancy Wood, cohosted by the Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce. The ticketed event features entertainment by the Joe Hillman Band, food and beverage trucks, and an exclusive up-close look at some of the vehicles entered in the Grand Prix.

On **Friday, September 15 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**, the public is invited to step back in time and cruise their classic vehicles and motorcycles into the City for the Friday Evening Cruise-in. Preview the course, park between 1st and 5th Avenues, and mingle with fellow motorsport enthusiasts (FREE; all vintage and present vehicles welcome).

Be in the middle of the action on **Saturday, September 16 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.** when the 7th Annual Coatesville Invitational Vintage Grand Prix roars along Lincoln Highway. Witness the skill of drivers of nostalgic cars and motorcycles as they navigate the challenging 2-mile road course. The Start/Finish line is located at 3rd and Lincoln Highway.

To volunteer, become a sponsor or for more information on attending, visit coatesvillegrandprix.com

Community Members Support a Program for Local Survivors of Human Trafficking and Exploitation

COATESVILLE, PA_ On Aug 17, 2023, members of the community gathered to support survivors of a crime that is more common than many people think—human trafficking and exploitation.

A group of strong women and men with can-do attitudes collected at Episcopal Church of the Trinity's social hall in Coatesville to raise funds for a new wellness program at Thistle Hills through a novel event: a sound bath of singing bowls that allowed participants to enjoy deep relaxation, meditation and, in some cases, sleep. Their experience was one that survivors at Thistle Hills cherish in sound sessions for relief from anxiety and insomnia. Together, they also created enchanting music in another activity that demonstrates the benefits of cooperation and, in the case of survivors, trust after years of hurt and betrayal.

Thistle Hills is a residential program for women who have been trafficked or commercially exploited. At an undisclosed location in the County, it provides holistic services for recovery and resources that survivors need to reclaim their lives and transition to a new way of life. Services and resources include a variety of therapies and healthcare, vocational training, food and a safe, stable place to call home as they heal.

Joining Deets at the fundraiser were accomplished participants with vastly different backgrounds but track records of helping community members to become resilient, empowered and self-sustaining. Liz Hulse, co-founder of the Chester County Coalition Against Human Trafficking; West Chester Mayor Lillian DeBaptiste; Peggy Russell, founder of ACE Anti-Human Trafficking of Oxford; Tamara Fox, director of marketing and development at ChesPenn Health Services; Laurie Murray, local artist and founding member of Pictor Gallery NYC; Cerise James, physician-scientist MD MPH; kindergarten teacher Michele Ollis, Lt. Rodger Ollis of the Coatesville Police Department and other leaders gathered on yoga mats for a soundscape by Carol Metzker, Sound and Wellness. Sponsors included Bronwyn Martin, CEO of Martin's Financial Advisors Consulting Group; Kathy Wileczek, Umbreit Wileczek and Associates PC; Neuchatel Chocolates and Strawflower Farm.

"Trafficking presents itself in many ways. It affects men, women and children exploited for labor or sex, locally and overseas," says Deets. "Sometimes people are abducted. More often, they are abused at a very young age by someone close to home, giving way to a life of trafficking, trauma and addiction. Regardless of their path to trafficking, Thistle Hills is here to support women toward recovery and self-sufficiency."

A resident at Thistle Hills relayed the importance of the residential program and sound sessions similar to the one at the event. "Sound sessions set out time for myself and freedom to reflect on what needs to be done in my life. They set the tone for how I start my day and continue self-care. They help me realize I am capable" (anonymous for privacy).

Weekday Bible Study Group
NO meetings in August and September
Resumes again in October

Healing Service via Zoom
Thursdays at Noon

We continue to offer a Healing Service via Zoom on Thursdays at Noon. The Zoom link is emailed via our Constant Contact email service on Wednesdays along with a copy of the order of service for the week. The order of service is also shared on the screen during the service itself. We commemorate a “saint” from the Episcopal Church utilizing the resource ‘A Great Cloud of Witnesses’ and share a little healing music from a variety of sources.



Erika Haak	2-Sep
Michael Thompson	10-Sep
Alexander Kirwin	13-Sep
Jeannine Bush	21-Sep
Curt Jennings	29-Sep
Dana Harvey	30-Sep
Cheryl Robinson	29-Aug



Peter & Paula Jennings	28-Sep
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Readers, Servers and Greeters for September 2023

Date	Readers	Psalm	Prayers
9/3	Paula Costello	Erika Haak	Betty Sullivan
9/10	Vic Shanley	Minnie Kirwin	Seth Haak
9/17	Greg Bentley	Tom Swett	Bill Terry
9/24	Deborah Murray	Chris Haak	Pat Bush



September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						SH Rented
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day Office Closed	AA 7PM	Kitchen Rented	Noon Healing Service via Zoom Kitchen Rented		SH Rented
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Vestry Meeting 11 AM		AA 7PM	Kitchen Rented	Noon Healing Service via Zoom	Kitchen Rented	Coatesville Invitational Vintage Grand Prix
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Rally Day Worship at The Bentley's 10:30 AM	Kitchen Rented	AA 7PM Kitchen Rented	Kitchen Rented	Noon Healing Service via Zoom Blood Drive 1-6 PM In Stone Hall	Kitchen Rented	SH Rented
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Vet's Brunch SH Rented		AA 7PM	Kitchen Rented	Noon Healing Service via Zoom VA Painting Party		SH Rented

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

For more information

contact:

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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: 530PM-8PM

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

Church School
Sundays 9:15 AM