



Trinity Topics

From the Rector's Desk . . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! Stu and I have been working hard, for quite a few years, on the building of a new house. January brings us to the process of moving into our new home in East Fallowfield Township. It will be a slow transition. We are excited to be making this change in our lives and look forward to what calendar year 2024 has to offer. Joyce Rupp has a book on the 'invitation to faithful prayer throughout the year' entitled "*May I Have This Dance?*". I share excerpts from the first chapter- January:

Our life is a journey. We are always "on the road." Each time another January greets us, we have an opportunity to pause, to see where we have been, to notice how far we have come, and to ponder how that journey has been for us. Each new year is also a time to clear our vision, to take stock of our resources, and to refresh our dreams as we set out once more on the journey that is ours.

There may have been roadblocks, detours, or dead ends during our past year. We may have felt stuck or lost as though we were moving backward. It always intrigues me to see how many people ignore a dead end or a road closed sign and still drive on that road, thinking they can somehow get through. The same is true for our roads of life. We can get caught in old destructive behaviors, negative patterns of thinking, or abusive situations. We try to keep these old behaviors and still move on in life, even though they prove to be dead ends and closed roads to personal growth.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<u>The Rector's Desk</u>	1-2
<u>Healing Service</u>	3
<u>Veterans Brunch</u>	3
<u>New Office Hours</u>	3
<u>Birthdays & Anniversaries</u>	4
<u>Calendar of Events</u>	5
<u>Readers, Servers & Greeters</u>	5
<u>Mission Statement & Contact Information</u>	6

There is a piece of art by Marty Engelbreit. The picture shows two roads. A little hobo figure with a small pack is traveling down the road marked "Your Life." Behind her is the road from which she has come. It is labeled, "No longer an option." We can learn from our past, from the roads we have traveled, but if we are to grow, we can only go forward on the road into the future. Whenever we walk into a new year, we are invited to enter into the unknown. We do not know what events will surprise us along the way. We can only see life for today. But we can risk the road because we have the tremendous assurance that God goes with us on the journey—"Be confident. For go where you will, your God is with you" (Jos 1:9). As we enter the new year, we trust God with our lives. We trust there will be enough strength and beauty amid the pain to sustain us and urge us forward. We trust that on this road we will come to greater wholeness and transformation.

Suggestions for Prayer:

1. Draw a road. Write the number of the year just completed. Jot down key events and experiences on the path. Give this path a name. Draw another road. Label it with the new year. Write your feelings as you enter January. Give your new road a name.
2. What kinds of roads have you traveled on your inner journey of the past year? Make a list of these roads or draw a road map, indicating the hills and valleys, empty stretches, busy freeways and so on, that you have traversed.
3. Where did you find filling stations and rest areas on your road last year? As you traveled on this road, did you: Encounter any roadblocks? Get stuck? Find an unusual treasure on the roadway? Meet someone who helped you find direction? Risk a 'road less traveled'? Search for your way back home? Cross over a bridge to a new freedom? Fall into a ditch and work your way out? Spend time in a serene place of beauty?
4. As you think of your life as a whole, and the many roads you have traveled, what are some of the markers along the way? (Dead end, dangerous curve ahead, construction underway, strong crosswinds, scenic view, slow...)
5. Read the book of Exodus. Any similarities between this story and yours? Where are you on the road? Just starting out from Egypt? Far into the wilderness? On the edge of the Promised Land? Into the Promised Land? Somewhere else?

Happy New Year! Blessings on this new calendar year as we seek to travel the road of life that God intends for each of us.

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.

Veterans Brunch Update

Joe Kirkner has been in communication with the Coatesville VA and there is a strong possibility that we may be hosting one of our Veterans Brunches on the last Sunday of January (Jan 28)! Stay tuned for more information.

Parish Administrator – New Office Hours

Jamoca Harkins will have new office hours beginning immediately. She will be in the church office Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. The office is closed on Fridays.



Kristina Cole	1-Jan
Diane Izzo	2-Jan
Liz Hulse	3-Jan
Robert Baynard Jr	7-Jan
Donna Anderson	10-Jan
Mildred Bruce	10-Jan
Mary Fleck	12-Jan
David Thompson	14-Jan
Jennifer Grubb	15-Jan
Michael Hanley	18-Jan
Sabrina Lewis	25-Jan
Ariel Abbott	25-Jan
Paul Shidlowksi	30-Jan
Kevin Evans	31-Jan

John & Mildred Coveleski	16-Jan
Wayne & Elizabeth Hanley	17-Jan

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	New Year's Day Office Closed			Healing Service 12noon		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Healing Service 12noon		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	MLK Day Office Closed			Healing Service 12noon		SH Rented
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Healing Service 12noon		
28	29	30	31			
Vet's Brunch						

Readers, Servers and Greeters for January 2024

Date	Readers	Psalm	Prayers
1/7	Betty Sullivan	Seth Haak	Minnie Kirwin
1/14	Vic Shanley	Chris Haak	Greg Bentley
1/21	Deborah Murray	Erika Haak	Tom Swett
1/28	Pat Bush	Kent Nation	Bill Terry

CHURCH OF THE TRINITY

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Coatesville, PA 19320-3409**

For more information

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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:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 1-3 PM

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4-7 PM

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

Church School

Sundays: 9:15 AM