

# The Trinity Times

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH • 430 JULIANA ST., PARKERSBURG, WA 26101 • 304.422.3362 • TRINITY-CHURCH.ORG

## SEPTEMBER 2024

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Administrator

Bree Fleming,  
Dir. of Religious Education

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2024

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Scott Ramsay

2025

Jeannie Gallagher  
Michael McKibben  
Mary Thomas

2026

Anne Deputy  
Mickie Richardson  
Justin Warren

### TRUSTEES

2024

Chad Mildren  
Frank Northrup

2025

Denny Prather  
2026

Paula Sellers

### TIMES EDITOR

Barbara Full

*The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church:  
We exist to love God and our neighbors!*



# A note from Fr. Geoff



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In Christianity, we sometimes think of theology or doctrine as one thing and spirituality as another thing entirely. Theology is something academics and clerics do and the spiritual life is what practical people need in the real world. But this dichotomy is an unhelpful one. Good Christian doctrine is always useful to the spiritual life; and good spirituality is always grounded in the truths that we profess. In Anglicanism, this is sometimes called the “doctrine-devotion synthesis.”

Nowhere is this found more clearly than in the tradition of our Collects (found 159-261 of the Book of Common Prayer). Many of these Collects reach back even before the time of the English Reformation in the 16th century to the sacramentaries (Mass books) of the Middle Ages.

If you look at the Collects closely, you’ll find that they almost always have the same parts. First, as expected, there is the **invocation** (e.g., “Almighty God” or “O Lord”). This is followed by some **acknowledgement**

either of God’s character or of some mighty work that he has done (e.g. “to you all hearts are open” or “who created us in your own image”). This is then followed by the **petition** - the actual kernel of the prayer, where we ask God for what we want, be it guidance, comfort, forgiveness, holiness, protection and the like. The petition is usually grounded in the claim made in the acknowledgment. Then there is usually an **aspiration**, the outcome that we hope to have, given the petition (e.g. “that we may perfectly love thee” or “that we may live in righteousness and holiness”). Finally, there is a **the pleading**, which often takes the form of a Trinitarian doxology (e.g. “through Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns”).

In this way, we can see that Anglican theology is often best expressed in our prayers, and our prayers are a way of understanding what we believe. The early monk Evagrius of Pontus (345–399 AD) famously said, “The theologian is one who truly prays, and one who truly prays is a theologian.”

Take for example, one of our most wonderful Collects, appointed for the Fifth Sunday in Lent:

*Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

This pattern - which links our desires and petitions to the trustworthy char-

acter and mighty works of God - is a wonderful way to pattern our own prayers, remembering God’s mercy when we find ourselves in time of need.

Last month, I encouraged you to examine your Prayer Book as a manual for Sunday worship, but as a handbook of devotion for the whole of Christian life. This month, I encourage you to take a look at the Collects. See what they tell you about who God is and what he has done, and see how they express the longings of the human heart.

Yours for Jesus’ Sake,  
Fr. Geoff

## Trinity by the Numbers July

Weekend Worship Attend.:  
5:30/8:00/10:30  
July 6,7: 11/14/38 (63)  
July 13,14: 13/14/43 (70)  
July 20,21: 14/12/38 (64)  
July 27,28: 22/5/36(63)

Wed. Healing: 8 (ave. wkly. att.)  
Holy Day Services: 6 (ave. att.)  
Community Resources/Thrive:  
Number served - 106  
Utility Assistance -24 families

If any readers would like an electronic copy of The Trinity Times, please send an email to the editor Barbara Full — [fullhousepkb@icloud.com](mailto:fullhousepkb@icloud.com)

# Father Geoffrey's Installation

August 3





Photos by  
Rachel Reinders

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> PENTECOST 15 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite II	<b>2</b> 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry <i>Labor Day — Office closed</i>	<b>3</b> 8:00 am — Men's breakfast @Bob Evans 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study (Conf. Rm) 5:00 pm-7:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	<b>4</b> 10:30am — Book sorting (last day for donations) 12:15 — HE & Healing 7:00 pm — Choir rhrl	<b>5</b> 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:30 pm — Saturday Eucharist, Rite II 7:00 pm — AA
<b>8</b> PENTECOST 16 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:15 am — Conf. Mtg 9:30 am — Choir rhrl 10:30 am — HE, Rite II 5:30 pm — Movie Night	<b>9</b> 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry	<b>10</b> 8:30 am — Men's breakfast @Trinity 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study (Conf. Rm) 5:00 pm-7:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	<b>11</b> 10:30am — Book sorting	<b>12</b> 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid) 11:00 am — Knitters	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:30 pm — Saturday Eucharist, Rite II (Holy Cross) 7:00 pm — AA
< ----- Fr. Geoffrey Away, (Diocesan Retreat, Vacation) 9/9 — 9/15 ----- >						
<b>15</b> PENTECOST 17 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir rhrl 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite II <b>Discretionary Sunday</b>	<b>16</b> 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry 6:30 pm — Vestry	<b>17</b> 8:00 am — Men's breakfast @Bob Evans 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study (Conf. Rm) 5:00 pm-7:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	<b>18</b> 10:30am — Book sorting 12:15 — HE & Healing	<b>19</b> 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid)	<b>20</b> <b>Trinity Times Deadline</b>	<b>21</b> 5:30 pm — Saturday Eucharist, Rite II (St. Matthew) 7:00 pm — AA
<b>22</b> PENTECOST 18 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir rhrl 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:30 pm — Game night	<b>23</b> 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry	<b>24</b> 8:00 am — Men's breakfast @Bob Evans 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study (Conf. Rm) 5:00 pm-7:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	<b>25</b> 10:30am — Book sorting 12:15 — HE & Healing	<b>26</b> 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:30 pm — Saturday Eucharist, Rite II 7:00 pm — AA
<b>29</b> PENTECOST 19 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir rhrl 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite II	<b>30</b> 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry 6:00 pm — Holy Eucharist (Michaelmas)		<b>BIRTHDAYS</b> 1. Owen Bookman 2. Lynn Fury 3. Michael Rauh 4. Terry Cauthorn 5. Sherry Smith 6. Hannah Darnell	6. John Roberts 7. Linda Dowling 10. Derek Parsons Roger Sellers 11. Tom Gyongyosi Julie Matheny 12. Forbes Hiehle	13. Liza Adams Nikolas Cameron 16. Stephanie Yates Josephine Yi 17. Diane Marks 19. Linda Ingraham Emily McGee	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b> 18. Sarah & Paul Bennett 19. Mary & Dick Bonnet

# The Rector's Bookshelf



## Loving Our Enemies: Reflections on the Hardest Commandment

Jim Forest  
Orbis Books, 2014

G.K. Chesterton famously said, “The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.” In our painfully polarized cultural and political climate - and as we count down to another presidential election in our nation - Chesterton’s quip seems all the more apropos. To that end, I’d like to suggest Jim Forest’s book, *Loving Our Enemies*.

I think most of us are probably familiar with Jesus’ words, “*You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven*” (Mt. 5.43-44). But how often do we actually abide by such a radical and countercultural imperative? Jim Forest beautifully and powerfully tackles this commandment of love that most of us would rather avoid.

Forest, who is perhaps best known as a peace activist in the 1960s was, for many years, the editor of the *Catholic Worker* newspaper. And in his later years, he became known as a definitive biographer of Thomas Merton and Dorothy Day, both of whom he knew well and counted as friends. But it is in his spiritual writing that I find the most value. In *Loving Our Enemies*, he masterfully weaves together biblical exegesis, story telling, history, art and architecture, the lives of the saints, and practical advice, to show that Jesus’ command is not some kind of otherworldly idealism. Rather, it is a very practically-intended expectation that Jesus has of his followers.

If you are anything like me, the idea of learning to love your enemies, pray for those who ill treat you, and bless those who have wronged you can seem like a daunting - if not impossible - prospect. Forest’s book, however, offers practical, down-to-earth advice borne out of a lifetime of his own experiments and experiences with peacemaking and reconciliation.

This is a book that challenges and convicts its readers. But it is all the more valuable for doing so.



## Highlights from August Vestry meeting

- The Treasurer reviewed the July financial reports. The Diocesan Managed Trust Funds increased in value again, and the church’s financial position remains healthy. He announced that we received the annual disbursements from the Ritchie and Widmeyer Memorial Funds which will be set aside for next year’s expenses. The disbursement from the Gilmore Memorial Fund will be used to help fund the honorarium payments to the guest musicians who were at the August 3 installation service.
- The DRE reported that Sunday School attendance has been steady during the summer, and she thanked everyone for their support and help while she was at Peterkin. A Wednesday night bible study may start in September.
- The Building & Grounds Committee replaced the fill valve on the toilet in the women’s restroom in the education building after being notified by the water department of extremely high water usage for the month of July. The committee will investigate installing water leak detectors in various locations in the buildings.
- The Stewardship Committee reported that the theme for the 2025 pledge campaign is “Living in Love.” The campaign will kick off at the Talent Showcase on October 16.
- The Rector announced that he will be out of town the week of September 9-15. The Diocesan Clergy Retreat is from September 9 through September 11, and he is on vacation from September 12 through September 15. The Reverend Chris Thompson will celebrate the services on September 14 and 15.
- A Vestry Retreat is scheduled for November 9 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

*Submitted by Julie Rathbone, Recorder*

Thank you to the decoration crew for the Installation Reception, held at St. X Parish Hall: Sherry, Mark, Michael, Lynn, Margie, and Mark



And to the coordinator, Paula



### **Confirmation or Reception Preparation**

Starting this month, we will begin preparation for people who would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Those who have been confirmed in other apostolic traditions and have become Episcopalians will use the same preparation to be "Received" into the Episcopal Church. Fr. Mackey will host an **informational meeting** for those interested on Sunday, **September 8 at 9:15 AM**, between the two Sunday Liturgies.

# Listening to the God Within

a silent retreat

Sandscrest Conference Center • Wheeling

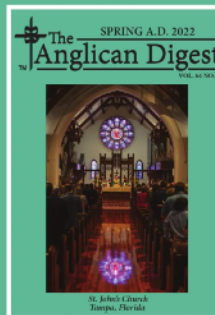
Thursday evening, September 26, to Saturday afternoon, September 28

Sponsored by the Commission on Spirituality of the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia

Sandscrest Conference Center, our diocesan retreat house near Wheeling, is offering a silent retreat this month from September 26-28. The Rev. Dr. Nancy Woodworth-Hill will be available during the retreat to accompany participants. The cost is \$180, which covers all meals and accommodations. Worship will include a candlelight Taize service, Celtic morning worship, and a worship hike. For more information, or to register, contact Sister Nancy Martin at 304.860.9446.

## An Opportunity for Growth & Formation

Did you know that *The Anglican Digest*, a magazine that has been published for sixty-six years is sent to anyone who desires to receive it. It is supported entirely by donations. *TAD* is published quarterly and is open to the needs and accomplishments of all expressions of Anglicanism: Anglo-Catholic, Broad, and Evangelical. Thus, *TAD* does not cater to any one niche or segment of the Church, but finds its enduring ethos is serving the whole Church, including her clergy and lay leaders, those theologically educated and "babes in Christ." Each issue, therefore, is unique. To receive your own copy, or to partner with them in sharing the work of the faithful, visit [anglicandigest.org/subscribe-now](http://anglicandigest.org/subscribe-now) or call 479-253-9701. You can receive the print edition, the online edition, or both!



# Book Sale News



The last day for book donations is Wednesday, September 4 from 10:30-12:00. The sale will be October 2-5. Wednesday through Friday the time is 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Saturday the time is 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. We can use all hands to help with set up starting Friday, September 27 at 10:30 AM. This is the day we will start setting up tables. The remaining set up days will be putting books in their proper places on the tables.

We can use a lot of help at noon on Saturday for clean up and the boxing of remaining books. We also need strong arms to take the boxes to the truck coming to take the remaining books.

Be prepared for a call from Becky Roberts to schedule workers for the sale! We appreciate any and all help!

Thanks for all your support.

God's Blessings,

The Book Sale Committee



## Trinity Episcopal Church Book Sale

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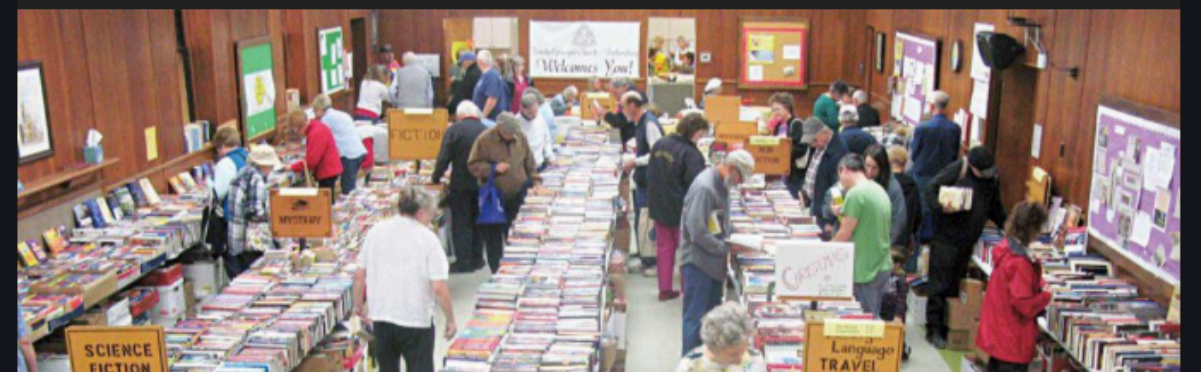
Trinity Episcopal Church Used Book Sale

Wednesday-Saturday

October 2, 3, and 4 from 9 am-6 pm. October 5, 9 am until noon.

Come and join us for lunch, browsing books, and visiting our Seasonal Gift Sale.

We are no longer taking book donations after September 4, 2024.







Trinity Episcopal Church  
430 Juliana Street  
Parkersburg, WV 26101

*Return Service Requested  
Dated Material Please Deliver Promptly*

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MOVIE NIGHT



Sunday, September 8th at 5:30 pm Pizza, other snacks provided