

OCTOBER
2021

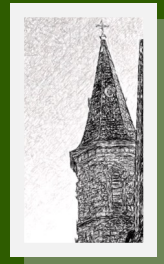
SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Rector's
Message
- Vestry Notes
- Finance
Update
- Outreach
News
- Prayer
Requests
- Calendar

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Romans 12:2

The Bell Tower



From Ghoulies and Ghosties and Long-legged Beasties and Things that Go Bump in the Night

Did you know that the Episcopal Church has a worship service for Halloween? It's true! Special readings and prayers are appointed for the Eve of All Hallows—more commonly called the Feast of All Saints—as a way of putting the festivities and *frissons* of Halloween in Christian context. The liturgy does not reject this holiday as evil or demonic, but rather takes the opportunity to consider the boundary between life and death, both its purpose and its permeability.

The most distinctive part of the liturgy for Halloween is the selection of readings: The Witch of Endor, The Vision of Eliphaz the Temanite, The Valley of Dry Bones, and The War in Heaven. Populated with ghosts, skeletons, dragons, and devils, these stories invite us into the supernatural in ways that The Episcopal Church has historically avoided. We are a church of scientists and historians, teachers and nurses, bakers and businesspeople. For all our love of mystery and candlelight, we generally prefer the practical to the paranormal.

So what are we doing with this crazy prayer service?

We're reminding ourselves that the hereafter is in fact here and now. In the midst of life *is* death, and death is not in fact final. Our selves and our souls are not annihilated by death but instead continue as members of the Communion of Saints and Body of Christ. Our loved ones are not lost to us forever, but continue to live on with us in a way we cannot yet fully understand, though we know that they still care about us and pray for us.

The vision of Eliphaz reminds us of the good reasons for observing the boundary between life and death. It is too easy to assume the dead have all the answers or the ability to change our lives. Those powers belong properly to God and chasing after ghosts brings only heartache. Pursuing occult powers is equally futile since every demonic power has been conquered by Jesus Christ and all the Angels. The Episcopal service for Halloween respects the dwellers in the Other World, but it does not venerate them. This is very practical indeed.



So pull together your costume, put on your heaviest black eyeliner, and come to our Halloween service this year, Sunday October 31 at 5pm. Our observance will include Holy Eucharist to reaffirm Jesus' victory over Sin and Death, and the assurance Resurrection and Eternal Life. That's something worth celebrating!

In peace, *Rhetha+*



Rev. Henrietta
Wiley, PhD

Thank You Worship Servers!

Altar Guild

Claire Hudson
Cindy Patzkowsky
Judy Weber
Joanne Lindsay
Peggy King
Mark & Nancy Nicholson
Kim Clark

Intercessors & Readers

Joanie Smith-Miller
Ted Miller
Eric & Katie Bass
Bob & Jenny Powers
Pont Hall
Tracy Martin
Heather Ayotte
Joe Greenbeck
Joanne Chapline
Kerry Plancon
John Oporia
Joel Moore
Haley Mahonski
Mac Price
Tom Valenti
Peggy King
Diane Serex-Dougan
Damon Schweitzer
Cathy Evans
Jackie Childs
Mary Beth Jorgensen
Brendan Bailey
Stephanie Foy

Greeters

Jack Weber
Mark & Nancy Nicholson
Susie Swindell
Donna Scarbrough
Heather & Owen Ayotte
Ted Miller
Joanie Smith-Miller

Acolytes & Crucifers

Claire Hudson
Cindy Patzkowsky
Joel Moore
Mark & Nancy Nicholson
Francis Mwaisela
Andrew Jenkins
Lisa & Jack Pawluk
Claire Krisanda
Caitlin Mahonski
Alison Klein
Delaney Klein
Owen Ayotte
Kim Clark

Pastoral Care

Rev. Liz Masterson
Claire Hudson
Jack Gillett
Pont Hall
Joanne Lindsay
Ted Miller
Dot Mundy
Cindy Patzkowsky
Pat Shaw
Joanie Smith-Miller

We are very grateful for all that serve and welcome all who want to serve.

If we have missed any names, please know that you are still very much appreciated.

If you would like to serve, please contact Jill in the office.

Audio Visual Team

Mary Sykes
Greg Gabell
Rich Dougan
Lillian Grimm
Willow Grimm
Allan Grimm

How can we
THANK
God enough for
YOU
in return for all
the joy we have
in the presence
of our GOD
because of you?
1 Thessalonians 3:9

September Vestry Highlights

- 1) Led by Rhetta, the Vestry has been discussing and moving forward on ways to make the best use of our beautiful (but aging) facilities, including use by outside groups that have goals or missions that align well with Trinity's. These groups will contribute through funds and other ways to contribute to upkeep and maintenance.
- 2) Related, the Property Committee (led by Greg Gabell) has done a lot in the last year and is gearing up for even more activity, including soliciting bids to remove the large, dying trees by the Surprise Shop and beginning to think about the 30-old HVAC system in the church.
- 3) The Vestry will have its retreat in mid-October and is looking ahead to ministry and finances for 2022. If you have ideas for directions that Trinity should take in the next year, please be sure to pass them along to a Vestry member.

*"Love God,
Serve God;
Everything is
in that. "*

Stewardship Income: August 2021

PLEDGED INCOME RECEIVED IN AUGUST	\$20,377
OTHER INCOME AND PLATE OFFERINGS	\$1,073
TOTAL INCOME IN AUGUST	\$21,450
TOTAL EXPENSES IN AUGUST	\$27,927
AUGUST OPERATING DEFICIT	-\$6,477
% 2021 PLEDGES RECEIVED AS OF AUGUST 31, 2021	72%

Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before Us

All Saints Day has been set aside by the Church to acknowledge and celebrate the Communion of Saints, the mystical union we share as members of the Body of Christ. On this Holy Day, we remember especially our sisters and brothers who have passed from this world to the next but live on as members of our spiritual fellowship.

At Trinity's All Saints Day service on Sunday, November 7, we will read aloud the names of our departed loved ones.

You can participate in this meaningful remembrance by sharing with us the names of your deceased loved ones in one of these ways:

- Emailing the names to office@trinitychurchtowson.org.
- Calling the church office at 410-823-3588



Fall & Winter Leaf Raking!



The J2A group is offering leaf raking services as a fundraiser for their 2022 pilgrimage to Colorado Springs.

Sign up now – and when your leaves are on the ground, contact us to schedule your raking.

For more information, please contact Laura McGuire at 410-949-6104 or lmcguire@trinitychurchtowson.org.

Baltimore International Seafarers' Request

Life at sea is an isolating and harrowing experience: Seafarers put their lives on the line, and are cut off from their families, confined on ships and unable to leave even after landing in foreign ports. The isolation and sacrifice these sailors endure to ferry needed goods across the world is unimaginable without experiencing it firsthand.



The Baltimore International Seafarers' Center is requesting new or gently used 2021 magazines and 2022 calendars for their crews. Reading matters to them and provides a much needed respite from the perils of the sea.

Please drop off any donations in the Narthex or at the church office Monday-Thursday between 9am-2pm.

Kibble Connection

For most of us our pets are family, and at Trinity we recognize this and foster that interconnectedness. "Kibble Connection" allows us to extend this love into our community. Coinciding with St. Francis of Assisi's Blessing of the Animals during the month of October, we will be accepting donations of unopened wet or dry dog and cat food, and any other new or gently used pet supplies.

Donations of pet food and supplies will be distributed to under-served communities. "Kibble Connection" partners include Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland, Charm City Companions, and B-More Dog, whose clients and their pets receive meals to maintain proper nutrition.

Donations can be dropped off at the office Monday-Thursday (9am-2pm) or on Sundays in the narthex. Donations can also be sent, via [chewy.com](https://www.chewy.com), or dropped off directly to Joanie Smith-Miller at 8800 Fearn Ave. Parkville, Md 21234. For questions please contact Joanie at tejojoanie@gmail.com or call 410-456-6512



Surprise Shop Gearing Up for the Holidays

The Surprise Shop has been busy as our regulars come in and check out our new computer system. We continue to increase our inventory with donations. Presently, we are taking donations Monday thru Friday from 10 AM to 3 PM. Weather permitting, items can be left on the back porch and you can let us know they are there by calling the shop at 410-828-9343 or stop in at the front desk when you come in to shop. In the event of uncooperative weather, simply bring your items to the front desk.

The first week in October we will begin taking consignment from the public. To consign items you must make an appointment by calling the shop. Consignment appointments are available on Mondays and Thursdays. Appointments are presently booking in November. Starting November 1st, we will be accepting Christmas items and winter clothing for sale.

Right now the shop has its share of "spooky" items for sale. Halloween is fast approaching and Thanksgiving is not far behind. We have a small selection of Thanksgiving items as well.

We also have a great selection of jewelry, especially earrings. (Pierced & Clips)

The shop is always well stocked for Christmas and at our next Surprise Shop Board Meeting we will probably make a decision as to whether or not we will host our Holiday Open House which is usually the first Sunday in December. Stay tuned!

All this being said, we are still in great need of more volunteers. Please consider joining our volunteer corp. One 3-hour shift each month would be a good way to start. If you are unavailable during the week, Saturdays are always an option. Until you learn the ropes, we will pair you with an experienced volunteer, have no fear!

As the weather cools, socks and warm undergarments will be needed. Don't forget our "Janet's Drawers" ministry. We are always in need of men's and women's socks and underwear (including sports bras) or money to buy the same. There are many who are needy in the Towson Community.

SURPRISE SHOP HOURS are MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Stop in to do your holiday shopping with us! We'd love to see you!

Stephanie Foy
Surprise Shop Chairperson
stephaniefoy82@gmail.com
410-377-4709

Erin Woodward
Surprise Shop Volunteer Director
410-828-9343





Intercessory prayer “is a profound, loving, and costly holding up of others who are on our hearts before God. True intercession is being with God, with the people on our hearts.”
-Br. Geoffrey Tristram, SSJE

O most mighty and merciful God, in this time of hurricanes, fires, earthquakes, and viruses, we flee to you for succor. Deliver the people, we beseech you, from their peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the needy; prosper the means of their safety; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we all may apply our hearts unto your heavenly wisdom which leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for those with immediate needs:

Kate McGretick, Raymond Chase, Jamie Tumulty, John Wray, Zoe Schultz, Katherine Mueller, Charlie Fraim, Anna Clarkson, Olivia Gabriel, Jimmy, Sandy Rupp, Ann Eder, and Jack Weber.

We pray for those with long-term needs:

Phoebe Bacon, Pat Blake, June Burgess, Ilene Clarkson, Betty Denison, Marina Gavrelis, Jack Gillett (grandson), Dottie Hagan, Betsy Hughes, Eric Ingle, Dick & Gini Patterson, Jessica, Chris Price, Francis Schultz, Dixie Shelhoss, Ruth Stahl, Nancy Sword, Jim Weatherly, Fred Webber, Pat Wolf, Ken Eder, Ebbie Wheeler, Rob Stahl, Wendy Stahl, Nancy Hinson, Larry Davis, Breezy, Michael Shaw, Lorraine Robertson, George Dougan, Betsy Price, Peter Mogelnicki, Dolores Andrew, Jack Gillett, and Catherine Hogg.

Please help us keep our list up to date by contacting the office when you or someone you know is in need of prayer, and by also letting us know when special prayers are no longer needed.

Please consider sharing your voice by sending Trinity submissions for the Bell Tower.

Articles, photos and content suggestions are always welcome.

Please email Jill Dumser at office@trinitychurchtowson.org or call 410-823-3588.

The *Bell Tower* is available on our website.

If you would like to save some trees and unsubscribe from the paper edition follow the QR code below.



OCTOBER 2021

Date	Time	Event	Location
10/7	8:00 AM	Bible Study	Online
	6:00 PM	Wiley & Sykes Evening Prayer	Online
10/10	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Quiet Service	Indoors
	10:00 AM	Blessing of the Animals Service	Outdoors
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer with Eucharist	Lee Chapel
	8:00 PM	AA Meeting	Memorial Hall
10/11	7:00 PM	Inquirer's Class	Online
10/13	8:00 AM	Bible Study	Online
	6:00 PM	Wiley & Sykes Evening Prayer	Online
10/14	12:00 PM	Bible Study	Online
	6:30 PM	T'ai Chi Beginners Class	Memorial Hall
10/17	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Quiet Service	Indoors
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist with Music	Indoors & Online
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer with Eucharist	Lee Chapel
	8:00 PM	AA Meeting	Memorial Hall
10/18	7:00 PM	Inquirer's Class	Online
10/20	8:00 AM	Bible Study	Online
	6:00 PM	Wiley & Sykes Evening Prayer	Online
10/21	12:00 PM	Brown Bag Bible Study	Online
	6:30 PM	T'ai Chi Beginners Class	Memorial Hall
10/23	7:00 PM	Trunk-or-Treat	Parking Lot
10/24	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Quiet Service	Indoors
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist with Music	Indoors & Online
	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer with Eucharist	Lee Chapel
	8:00 PM	AA Meeting	Memorial Hall
10/25	7:00 PM	Inquirer's Class	Online
10/26	7:00 PM	PCRC Meeting	Memorial Hall
10/27	8:00 AM	Bible Study	Online
	6:00 PM	Wiley & Sykes Evening Prayer	Online
10/28	12:00 PM	Brown Bag Bible Study	Online
	6:30 PM	T'ai Chi Beginners Class	Memorial Hall
10/31	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Quiet Service	Indoors
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist with Music	Indoors & Online
	5:00 PM	All Hallows' Eve Eucharist	Lee Chapel
	8:00 PM	AA Meeting	Memorial Hall



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