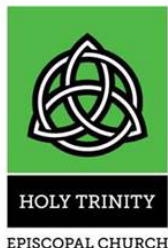




# PARISH POST



THE MAGAZINE OF HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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NOVEMBER  
2018

## "THERE'S A PLACE FOR US..."

BY THE REV. TIMOTHY J. PATTERSON, RECTOR

### Modified from the 2018 Parish Vision Speech

With the curtain just about to open on our completed construction in a couple of weeks, this is the vision I would like to share with you. This is what I see. From my perspective based on nearly thirty years of history at Holy Trinity, I see our church today in the midst of a seismic shift. We are about to complete a once-in-a-generation transformation of our space, our buildings and the entire physical plant that supports our mission as a church. And the changes will not just be physical. We are in the process of making major improvements in handicapped accessibility and hearing accessibility (with the installation of hearing loop systems in our larger spaces). Energy efficiency (in all of our spaces). Fire safety (in our Parish House and Day School). Audio-visual capacity. Significant renovation and cosmetic updating of all our spaces, with new lighting, new flooring, new finishes - we have gone from 1962 to 2018 in a very short period of time. And, as you will soon discover, it all just feels really different. Additional space for Youth Ministry will be coming. More adequate parking. A beautiful new terrace, providing an additional large covered gathering space, as well as creating an indoor/outdoor dynamic which I think has completely transformed the atmosphere and feel of the

Haywood Duke Room. Eventually a covered entrance for the church which connects to the existing and now extended covered walkway and to the new terrace, providing much improved connectivity and flow. And I believe the physical

changes will have a real impact on the shape, the dynamics and the spiritual energy of our life as a community. Because, we shape our physical space and our physical space also shapes us.

We originally billed this project as a Capital Gifts Initiative, Generation to Generation, and as a call for our church to take Giant Steps. Well, our congregation, across all the generations, truly has stepped up. This is an awesome community. We achieved our ambitious goal of raising over \$6.5M! But I believe we have another step to take.

You know, I often hear people say, "well, I don't watch TV." And I think, well maybe they are more spiritually evolved than me. Because I do watch

TV. Kathleen and I have taken to watching some of those housing shows on HGTV. For some reason, it is fascinating and emotionally engaging to watch people shopping for their homes, renovating their homes, and decorating their homes. The HGTV network has a catchy theme, which is actually the chorus of a pretty good song with the words, "There's a place for us."



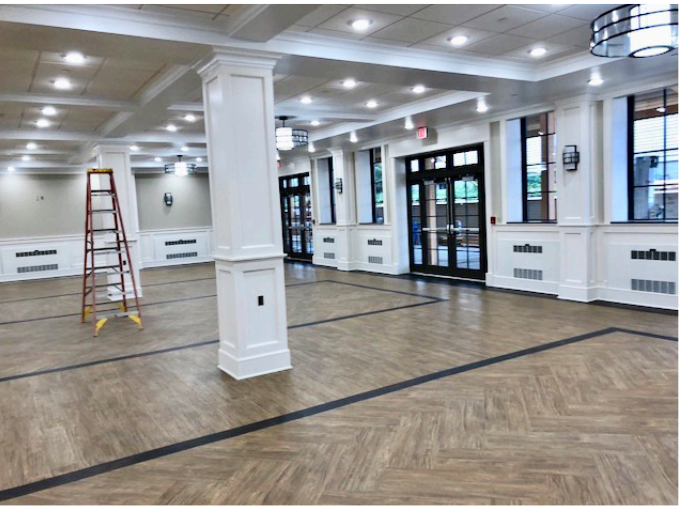
New lighting in the Church



“THERE’S A PLACE FOR US...” (continued from page 1)

And I have been struck by just how powerful that sense of “place” is for people. There is almost an archetypal power to that sense of place, that sense of home, a place that feels good, a place that we belong. I know that I have a deep feeling of connection and love for my own home. I think it may be universal for human beings. And I think it applies not just to the house a person or family lives in, but it can also apply to a sense of sacred space, sacred places, and having a spiritual home, a sense of connection and community and a place we feel we belong. In the theme song, “There’s a place for us,” let me share some of the words. *“Cause we’re marching to the beat out in the open air, And we’re all just broken pieces trying to fit somewhere, We wander ‘round in circles and we talk in squares, But as long as we’re together, we can go anywhere. Yes, there’s a place for us, there’s a place for us.”*

On HGTV, one of our favorite shows is called “Love It Or List It.” Some of you may have seen it. If you haven’t, the premise is that there’s a family living in a house that they’ve outgrown or simply no longer works for them. They bring in a realtor who shows the family other houses that may work, based on what they say they want. The problem is, these other homes are in a different place, a different neighborhood, usually more expensive and further away from where they want to be. People really do get attached to that sense of place. Meanwhile, they bring in a designer who can see the potential in their present home and renovate it to it’s full potential. And, at the end of the show, they are given the choice, to love it - i.e., stay in their now renovated home - or to list it - to sell it and move into a new one.



Haywood Duke Room’s renovation

**“I believe with every fiber of my being, that God is trying to do something here. To do something here and now.”**

At any rate, the vast majority, I think at least 70% of the people on the show choose to “love it” and stay in their newly renovated and now beautifully transformed home. And when they do choose to “love it,” it is usually quite emotional in a positive way, with tears of joy and great energy. They fall in love with their home all over again. The choice to renovate their home and to love it seems to be a catalyst for a renewed commitment and enthusiasm to be staying in the place they have come to know as home. Let me point out that, Temple Emmanuel, our friends and Fisher Park neighbors for nearly 100 years, just across the street, chose to “list it,” and to move to a bigger place out in the suburbs. At Holy Trinity, we have chosen to “love it.” And my vision for the coming year is that this decision and commitment will be a catalyst. That we, as a community, will experience a powerful wave of positive energy and renewed vitality, along with a wonderfully renewed sense of commitment to this place, commitment to this church as our spiritual home, and commitment to our mission as the people of God, knowing Christ and making Christ known, in downtown Greensboro.

This decision to “love it,” to make the commitment to this place as our spiritual home, to make the \$6.5M commitment to renovate our church, was indeed a “giant step.” But I believe that we are being called to take another giant step. Because, again from my perspective based on nearly thirty years of history here, I believe with every fiber of my being that God is trying to do something here. To do something here and now. Through the music, the worship, the preaching, the people, and the ministries. To give birth to something very significant spiritually and something very much needed in our community and our world. Namely, a community of faith that fully embodies our mission as God’s people in this place. *“To know Christ and make him known, through an inward journey of faith and an outward journey of service, giving thanks to God in all things.”*



The new terrace under construction



I want to mention one important piece of that commitment, namely stewardship. We have taken the giant step of committing ourselves to a \$6.5M Capital Gifts Initiative. But this needs to be a catalyst. Just as important is the second giant step of making the commitment to fully funding our EMC, our annual giving and budget. The fundraising consultants told us to expect a dip in the EMC/Annual Giving during the first year of CGI payments, which was last year. Sure enough, we fell over \$100,000 short of our goal of \$1.9M, and had to supplement last year’s operating budget with some very limited reserve funds. This second year, we are hoping and praying for an increase in our Annual Giving to fully fund our budget. Specifically, we would really love to bring in an additional priest to return our staffing to full strength, if our budget will allow it. I have mentioned this to several people and, on more than one occasion, they have responded, “Well, I hope it is another female priest.” I do too. That, without question, is our hope and our intention. During my tenure as rector, I have hired four male priests and seven female priests, including the very first one at Holy Trinity, all of whom have had fruitful ministries here. I fully appreciate and am committed to the best gender balance we can achieve, as we try to reflect the fullness of the divine image in our leadership at every level of the parish. And if the congregation will continue to step forward in faith, taking this second giant step, we will make that happen.

Again, I believe with every fiber of my being that God is trying to do something significant here and now. But God needs us, our congregation, to be a co-creative partner, which means we are being called to step forward, once again, on faith. Of course, I guess we don’t have to do it now. We could wait. But for how long?

I think about the history of Israel, and their’s was a two step process. First was the Exodus, being liberated from bondage in Egypt. The second step was entering and occupying the Promised Land, to embody God’s vision- to embody the covenant as God’s chosen people. And that didn’t happen until 40 years later. But, if you read the Bible carefully, there is an episode in the Book of Numbers. Just two years into their wilderness journey, God told Moses, “It’s time.” So, following God’s instructions, Moses assembled a group of spies, twelve of them, to sneak into the land of Canaan to



Newly renovated Parish House entry

assess the situation and report back. Two of the spies said yes, with God’s help we can do this. But the other ten lacked faith. They said, the people currently occupying the land were too strong, they might be giants. They were overcome by fear. They didn’t trust that, with God’s help, they could do it. And so God said because of their lack of faith they would need to wander in the wilderness for another 38 years, until that generation, the one lacking faith, would die out. How old will you be in 38 years? Barring a number of medical miracles, I will be gone. The opportunity is right before us, right here and right now. If we have faith, we can and we will, with God’s help, fully embody our mission and be the people and the community God is calling us to be.

We have made the decision to love it, we have made a huge commitment to this place as our spiritual home, a place that we belong. In the words of that song: *“Cause we’re marching to the beat out in the open air, And we’re all just broken pieces trying to fit somewhere, We wander ‘round in circles and we talk in squares, But as long as we’re together, we can go anywhere. Yeah, there’s a place for us, a place for us.”* And this is the place for us, our spiritual home. The vision for this coming year is for this commitment to be a catalyst, part of a much larger renewed commitment to God, to our faith, to our church community and to our mission as the people of God in this place. To fully embody our mission, to be a witness, to fully become the faith community God is calling us to be in this now renovated, beautiful, dynamic space. 🙏



Broome Hall’s renovated look (still in process)





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# HOLY TRINITY IRELAND PILGRIMAGE



BY MARTY AND JOHN ROSSER, HOLY TRINITY PILGRIMS

In May, John and I had the privilege to travel to Ireland with fourteen others to experience the “thin space” of that land. The beauty of Ireland with its magnificent green landscapes and brilliant blue coastline enhanced our connection to the spirituality of the earth, the sky, and the sea. No wonder the Celts found the world around them to be an inspiration. We were blessed with sunny days and clear skies, except for a few mornings of more typical fog and mist. We traveled throughout Ireland, visiting chapels, cathedrals and the ruins of ancient monasteries where St. Patrick and many other intrepid saints had proclaimed the Gospel. With our teacher Marcus Losack’s guidance, we were transported in time “to walk in the footsteps of St. Patrick.” We learned of St. Patrick’s emergence of faith in God while a slave in Ireland, his escape and eventual return as a priest whose purpose was bringing Christianity to the spiritually rich and pagan Ireland. We discovered his teachings and the context of the times in which he lived. It was profound to realize the strength of his devotion to Christian teaching and to establishing a Christian church at what was thought to be the edge of the world. We were privileged to pray in the ancient Saul Church, built on the site of St. Patrick’s first church. We were awed by St. Patrick’s Cathedral, which was magnificent, and we were able to listen to expert librarians and historians who shared more with us on St. Patrick and the early church. One particularly meaningful experience for us was being able to see the original manuscripts from the book of Kells held at Trinity Collage. We could visualize



Glendalough Valley



Lakes of Kellarney

the monks illustrating the beautiful art on the pages of scripture. In fact, we visited several museums and libraries throughout Ireland, continually learning more of the history and culture of this ancient country. On pilgrimage, our group quickly developed a sense of community as we each shared in regular worship, leading morning and evening prayer and taking the time for simple communion services which were held outside at historic sites. It was a particularly powerful experience to pass the bread and wine to each other and to pray together, holding hands and standing in places like the Hill of Slane, where Patrick lit the first Paschal fire, and the Hill of Tara, the place of the ancient kings. It was so moving to feel the sun and the wind on our faces while we were connected to one another, to the Divine, and to the history of these ancient sites and people. We were privileged to share meals together, and in the evenings we had group sharing and reflection on our experiences of the day. We were careful to help one another with any strenuous walking or difficult terrain, and we spent plenty of time laughing and sharing as we journeyed through the country. We especially enjoyed jokes told by our entertaining bus driver, Kiran O’Brien, who also loved to banter with us. After three trips to Scotland over the years, I thought I knew about my Celtic roots. In Ireland, I felt I had come home to the place of my ancestors. This pilgrimage to Ireland was a rich opportunity for an inward spiritual journey, while experiencing a sense of community with our fellow pilgrims.🙏



# AUSTIN CONNORS NAMED 2018 RECIPIENT OF PRICE SCHOLARSHIP

BY MARJORIE DONNELLY & STEPHEN LAFRANCE, CHAIR OF THE PRICE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION

The Price Scholarship is a merit-based award that factors in contributions to one's community, service at Holy Trinity, and academic achievement. The recipient receives \$4,000 per year for each of their four years in college.

This year's scholarship committee included Steve LaFrance (Chair), Helen Barnes, Marjorie Donnelly, Amy Klass, and Dan Koenig.

This year, we had four highly qualified applicants for the scholarship. These seniors were all gifted students, talented athletes, and demonstrated a commitment to their church and community.

Collectively, they exhibited a commitment to service, excellence in academics, leadership in the community and strong desires to continue their spiritual journey as they begin new chapters in their lives. Our interviews also clearly revealed the impact Holy Trinity has made on each of their lives thus far.

The scholarship committee's decision is never easy. The committee prayerfully made their selection and the 2018 Price Scholarship recipient is Austin Connors, son of Jackie and Manning Connors.

Austin said that academically he is "driven to challenge himself." This drive paid off when he received the International Baccalaureate diploma at Page High School, and finished number 1 of 487 students in his high school class. During his four years of high school, Austin managed to find a balance between church, activities, and school. With Boy Scout Troop 203, he held several leadership positions, was inducted into the Order of the Arrow, and earned the Eagle Scout Award. Other leadership activities included the Spanish National Honor Society (Vice President and President), Principal's Council (Co-President), National Honor Society (Treasurer), Youth Leadership Greensboro (Board Member), Page Swim Team (Co-Captain), Page Varsity Cross Country Team, Sherwood Swim Coach, Breakfast Buddies Mentor, and Greensboro Urban Ministry volunteer.

Austin is fluent in Spanish, and he won a scholarship to spend one summer during high school abroad with a host family in Madrid. His Holy Trinity involvement included Glory Ridge, EYC, Burrito Bikers, Acolyte Team Captain, and Youth Pilgrimage.



Galicia on the Camino Pilgrimage

In his essay, Austin said: "Holy Trinity has been a very important part of my life from the time of my baptism to the Senior High EYC. The church has grounded me with faith, enabled me to make lifelong friendships, and provided me with a safe community where I feel included and loved by all. Some of my greatest childhood memories are of church activities – lock-ins, retreats to the mountains, and piano lessons with Mr. Ben at the Music School. As I grew older, I started to take advantage of Holy Trinity's opportunities to serve others. The most significant of these is Glory Ridge. This summer was my fourth year spending a week in Madison County, and time at the Ridge

has been life changing. Since Holy Trinity has provided me with so many experiences, I, in turn, elected it as the site for my Eagle Scout Project. I enjoyed working with Mrs. Buie to build an outdoor musical wall for the Day School."

One of his coaches described Austin as "excelling in more aspects of his life than any other student to ever pass through her program." He is a strong, compassionate, and confident young man who has prepared himself for extraordinary success. In Austin's own words, "I strive to be the best person I can be. This is God's mission for all of us, and I have been blessed that Holy Trinity taught me this lesson." Austin is living proof that hard work, dedication, perseverance, and a positive attitude coupled with sincere humility and graciousness are the best tools to become all that God created him to be. There is no doubt that Francis and Cynthia Price would approve of our choice for their scholarship as Austin pursues Spanish and Ethics at Duke University. 🙏

# EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY

BY MEREDITH SCOTT, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Every member of our church can make a difference in the lives of our Youth!

As you likely remember from your youth, the life of a teenager is hectic and often very difficult. Through this lens, it is our goal in Holy Trinity's EYC to provide each young person a place where they can find respite, in an often-frenzied world. A safe place where they can recharge their spirits. This thought process drives our long standing EYC Mission Statement:

*"To know Christ and to make him known through an inward journey of faith and an outward journey of service, thanking God in all things."*

We go about fulfilling our mission in multiple ways, such as:

- Fostering a loving and inclusive community where young people can come to know the love God has for them
- Helping youth understand the unique ways in which they are equipped to serve Christ in the world
- Utilizing techniques like group prayer, intentional conversation, service in and outside our community, fun and fellowship

Consider, also, it is only for a short time that our church community has the opportunity to teach the impressionable youth the kindness of Christ; helping to impart the knowledge and experience of serving others all while guiding them in the fullest way possible on their individual spiritual journeys. With this context we hope you will agree that it is of the utmost importance for our church family to reach out and support this very special group of young people.

Teenagers are often seen as an unruly and surly bunch that want nothing to do with any other age group. The teenage years seem to be a time of angst and rebellion, as they struggle to search for their identities and what they will do with their future. In that challenge, adults may be seen as a hindrance to that goal built of high expectations and demands, all coming from our love and concern for their futures. Of course, we want the best for them, but



EYC Fall Retreat Camping Biking Hiking Weekend

let's take the time to appreciate and welcome them as they are. It's time to change this narrative. Like every one of us, youth are looking for kindness, love and acceptance.



This role that they play is a "have to" based on society's view of them. Let's work as a church to change that. Let us create a new narrative, by showing an interest in our youth and appreciate their presence on campus. Just by simply saying "hello" and acknowledging their presence, we are letting them know that we are glad to have them with us. Take a moment to get to know them. Ask them about themselves, who they are and what they might be thinking about their future. If you know they go to Glory Ridge, thank them for their work. If you know they went on Pilgrimage, ask them about their trip, if you know

they have just joined EYC as an incoming 5th grader, ask them how things are going. If you see them in church, shake hands or pat them on the back and tell them you are glad to see them there. Even a simple smile can make them feel welcome. They may even strike up a conversation with you or they may seem bewildered, but do it anyway. Let us shepherd our youth on their spiritual journey. Help to welcome them home by keeping them close in your heart and prayers. 🙏





# HOLY TRINITY TUSCANY PILGRIMAGE

BY LOUISE BRADY, MICHAEL CARDONE and BUSTER LEWIS, HOLY TRINITY PILGRIMS

### Louise Brady

When asked to describe my Tuscan experience, we must go back to the beginning. When we all first gathered in a park in Lucca for our opening service, many in our group indicated that they in essence wanted time to reflect, disconnect and “get off of the hamster wheel”. Fast forward to the tearful expressions at our closing prayer ceremony in Siena which validated that indeed everyone had gotten off of the hamster wheel and had realize what was really important in their life. To me that can be summarized as the F’s - family, friends, fellowship, faith, forgiveness and fortitude

My experience was deeply prescriptive. It framed how I will strive for a peaceful balance going forward. The pilgrimage provided the opportunity to discover a deep sense of calm and wider understanding. Whether it was sitting a few minutes (or hours) longer at the dining table to fully flush out our conversation; or singing hymns in the wee hours of the morning when reconnected to our group; or talking about different religions, and how it relates to today’s views. The amount of time and space that was allowed each individual to explore these thoughts and have these types of discussions with fellow parishioners was rare and enlightening.

I will remember and appreciate those conversations that I had along the way as much as the memories of the gorgeous scenery, physical exertion and outstanding food. Whether we were laughing at jokes or basking in the kindness of strangers offering us shelter from the rain, it was the little things that add up to providing the “pilgrim lens” we all hope to keep in our day to day lives going forward.

Rolling-hills, beautiful vineyards, Tuscan skys, fresh air, good friends old and new, spiritual direction, deep conversation, and an openness to explore any and everything important in life. That is how I would describe a pilgrimage with fellow Holy Trinity parishioners.



Pilgrims walking through the countryside

### Michael Cardone

Our pilgrimage took us through rough terrain as well as roads and trails that tested our physical ability, but the amazing landscapes and spontaneous adventures eagerly moved us forward to another charming Tuscan village. The seemingly unending grape orchards and sunflower fields laced the footed hills of ancient castles and the smells of wild flowers and blackberries filled the air.

Each pilgrim had a different pace which gave us time to get to know individuals, and ourselves, at a level our every-day-lives do not allow. At this point, the pilgrimage became real for me. The closeness and undistracted attention created amazingly new friendships, soul searching and discovery. The journey, outward on this breathtaking landscape,

led to a journey within. Yes, I was in it for the adventures, no doubt, and opportunities to encounter new cultures and learn about new ways of encountering God. But for my journey, I learned to heal from the inside, to slow down my pace and realize the importance of the moment. It’s the interior journey that renewed and strengthened my soul.

**// Nature is about the only thing left where principles and laws hold true, where things are as they are supposed to be, where there is no discrimination against anyone, and where beauty, harmony and inter relatedness provide experiences that people enjoy remembering. //**

**- Goff**

### Buster Lewis

“You’re going to walk 80 miles?! I could never do that”. This was the most common response when I told people about the pilgrimage to Italy. The fact that the walk was in Tuscany was almost embarrassing. It made it seem more like a vacation than a spiritual practice. Although it was challenging, walking was simply the physical component of a rich experience.

More challenging to me was the spiritual aspect. We were encouraged to “set an intention”, meaning that we should think about what God would like to teach us on our trip. I had personally been experiencing a great deal of apathy toward things in my life: work, relationships, activities that I had loved in the past, organizations that had meant a lot to me. I just didn’t really care about anything. I set as my intention to explore the reasons for this, to see if I could become “unstuck”.

I have so many wonderful memories of the trip: laughter as we try to figure out how to coax an “American” cup of coffee out of an Italian coffee machine; sudden rain storms that sent everyone scurrying for their rain gear; morning devotions where we shared the Eucharist and devoted our day to God; long, deep conversations with fellow pilgrims; walking alone for a while to take in God’s incredible creation and to allow God to speak to me.



The Tuscany pilgrimage ended at St Peters Basilica in Rome



It has taken almost a month to process the journey, but I am now beginning to understand some of the things God wanted to say to me: Focus on things that are important and care about those things. Narrow your interests and begin to pour your time and energy into things that will matter in my Kingdom. I am beginning to feel the early stirrings of hope. Because of this pilgrimage, I have been given new friends who brighten my heart every time I see them and who I know will be part of this new chapter in my life. 🙏



HOLY TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**The Rev. Timothy J. Patterson**  
Rector

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## WELCOME NEWCOMERS TO HOLY TRINITY

### Welcome New Members:

Adam, Mary, Carter, and Charles Currie

Patience Ergish

Stewart Farris

Jonathan, Allison, Mary, Anna Few

Tony Gilberti, Julia Baun, & Natalia

Stuart Gordon

Susan Griffin

Maxie Haller

Stacie Hern

Stu Jenks

Jennie and Carl Laurent

Misty McCall

Susan and Ted Oliver

Rick Staton

Jimmy Stowers

J.C. Thomas

Megan Thomas, Scott Staubach, Shelby, Henry, Kate, & Wells

John Wing

Nick Klett

Tadeu Coelho

### Upcoming New Member Gatherings

#### New Member Dinner

*Thursday, December 6, 6 p.m., Broome Hall*

New members are cordially invited to this special evening hosted by Vestry members and clergy to enjoy the warm fellowship of the Holy Trinity community, share a delicious meal, and learn ways to live meaningful ministry. RSVP by Monday, December 3 to Rev. Mark Lile-King at [mark@holy-trinity.com](mailto:mark@holy-trinity.com), 336-272-6149 x272. Childcare is provided upon request.

#### New Member Liturgy

*Sunday, December 9, 11:15 a.m., Church*

The Holy Trinity community enthusiastically welcomes new members with a New Member Liturgy at the 11:15 a.m. service. Please contact Rev. Mark Lile-King at [mark@holy-trinity.com](mailto:mark@holy-trinity.com), 336-272-6149 x272 to let him know you want to participate in this meaningful liturgy.

#### Welcoming Newcomers to Holy Trinity

***"If we are to love our neighbors, before doing anything else we must see our neighbors. With our imagination as well as our eyes, that is to say like artists, we must see not just their faces but the life behind and within their faces. Here it is love that is the frame we see them in."*** Frederick Buechner, *Whistling in the Dark: A Doubter's Dictionary* 🕊