



TRINITY BELLS ***MARCH 2023***



Learn from the past, live in the present, and plan for the future.

When I arrived to walk with you on this incredible journey with you, I found a place with a big heart and an anxious presence. Trinity had just decided whether to stay open or throw in the towel and give up on 160 years of service to the Kingdom of God and God's people. We chose a path, a road less traveled, to continue our service to Christ with the mighty few we have.

As I gaze around this venerable old building, I see the past come alive. Our rich history is written on the walls. Ms. Mackay's bold move to build our current church back in 1907 is the starting point of Trinity, but it is not the beginning. Many years of developing Episcopal identity in Roslyn and planning for the future went into the hopes and dreams of those loyal servants of Christ so many years ago. These pathways were formed, and the foundations laid for a future they would not see; their paths live on with us into today and tomorrow.

Paths are an exciting thing. Back in high school, a wise old Master exhorted us to always remain on the path, never cut across the yard." You see, he said, upon these paths trod great people of history, and in following their footsteps perhaps your light will shine alongside theirs." The lights of those who came before us continue to shine in the windows and structures of Trinity, and it is up to us to build upon this past and bring Trinity to a future of which our forebears would be proud.

By living in the present, we begin to mold the future that God has for this community. God is not magic, and there is no magic formula for growth. It is incumbent upon each of us to grow the church by moving our mindset from scarcity to abundance, from maintenance to mission. What can we do, in the present to move into a more mission-minded parish? We have the skeleton of the mission, strong and sturdy in our liturgy. The choir and liturgy form this skeleton. We come together as a community to sing and worship Christ in our Eucharist. We begin to put sinew and muscle on this skeleton through the work we do in the community. Blessing bags is a primary example of this mission. We take our love into the world and share it with the community through Invite Welcome Connect, our speaker series, our book studies, and the daycares we support.

Part of living in the present is gratitude for what we have. I am grateful for the staff that makes all this possible. Mike holds this ancient place together with the care of a doctor. Trinity is a living place that has seen many things in our town and world. She is aging and like anyone that is aging, she needs TLC and great support. Thank you, Mike for all that you do. Ariann and Larry provide the breath of Trinity; their tireless work to bring the musical beauty and voices of the choir give us our spirit. Ronit keeps all things sewn up and makes sure all the details happen. Speaking of details, Karann, our accountant does a phenomenal job with our books, making our financial life clear and rock solid. Thank you to our Vestry and Wardens for the tireless work that they do, and to all who contribute to the life of our dear Trinity.

While we live in the present we look to the future, and our future is bright if we stay the course of what we have done, and what we are doing, and embrace the future missions that we choose to engage and prosper for the love of God and the love of our neighbor.

For we are the beloved of God.

Peace and All Good,
Fr. George

LENT & HOLY WEEK SERVICES



LENTEN BOOK STUDY SERIES

Tuesdays via zoom -7 pm

***The First Paul* by Marcus Borg and Dominic Crossan**

March 7, 14, 21, 28

(call the church office during office hours for Zoom Meeting info)

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### **LUNCH and LEARN IN LENT– NEW!**

**Just bring your lunch & yourself!**

Wednesdays at 12 Noon

**Mar 8-** St Luke's, Sea Cliff

**Mar 15-** Trinity, Roslyn (choir room)

**Mar 22-** St Luke's, Sea Cliff

**Mar 29-** Trinity, Roslyn (choir room)

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SERVICES

APRIL 2- PALM SUNDAY – 10 am

APRIL 6- MAUNDY THURSDAY –

Potluck Soup Supper at 6:30 pm

followed by Holy Eucharist at 7 pm

APRIL 7- GOOD FRIDAY- 12 Noon

APRIL 8- THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER- 7 pm

APRIL 9- EASTER SUNDAY - 10 am

FLOWERS:

*Please send in your donation or call the church office by **Mar 31**
if you would like to donate Easter lilies or Spring flowers
in memory of a loved one*

WARDENS LETTER

March 2023

I sat down to write this letter with the intention of thanking our Vestry for their dedicated service to Trinity over the past year, but my heart was heavy knowing that the one person I wanted to thank the most wasn't there. On January 16, 2023 our Trinity family lost Helen Oehrlein to a fatal pulmonary embolism. Her death was so shocking and unexpected that we are still trying to make sense of it. Helen was so healthy and active that it is impossible to comprehend that she is gone.

There was nothing she didn't do for Trinity. She was an active member of the Vestry at the time of her death and had also served as Warden. She was a devoted member of the choir. She was an articulate member of Burning Books. She made the Childcare Center one of her top priorities and volunteered there frequently. She almost single-handedly saved the Childcare Center from going under when the director's long illness and eventual death several years ago left the books and financials in great disarray. She was always one of the first people to appear when anyone needed help. She regularly visited Robert Chapman through the many weeks and months of his declining health and was there for others with her kind words and sweet smile. If there was an Outreach project, Helen was there: rummage sales, the Christmas Boutique, the Rural and Migrant Ministries campaigns, and steadfast service in the filling and distribution of Blessing Bags every month. She did not complain; she simply smiled and did what had to be done. She showed us all what it truly means to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves.

A memorial service will be held for Helen on April 22. In the meantime, all of us at Trinity send our deepest sympathy to her husband Ken Bongort, her son Kenny Bongort, and the rest of her family. In that place where she sees God face to face, may she dwell in eternal peace and joy.

Sheila Platt, for the Wardens and Vestry





I want to mention the loss our Childcare Center suffered with the passing of Helen Oehrlein. In 2018, the Childcare was on the brink of closing. Enrollment was very low, we didn't have enough staff and the Director, Marie, was in the hospital with a terminal illness. Not only did Helen go to the hospital to work with Marie on any password protected files, she also volunteered in the infant room F/T for several weeks, all while being the Church Warden. Staff was hired along with a new Director who Helen trained. She continued to help out in the office one day a week, and also substituted whenever we needed her. She continued to sub until this past August. I hope Helen knew how much we loved and appreciated her. I will always remember her as the Angel who saved the Childcare. I think she would be very happy to know that we are up to 33 children enrolled, with 2 Infants on the waiting list- the highest enrollment since opening in 2016.

The Center held a pot luck supper with all of the families to celebrate the holidays. The dishes were very diverse to go along with the diversity of the families in our Center. Thanks to Mike, the fireplace room looked so festive and beautiful. The children performed a lively rendition of Jingle Bells, with actual jingle bells to accompany their sweet voices. They had been practicing with their music teacher, Miss Ari. There was a surprise visit from Santa Claus. Again, thanks to Mike. It was such a success. It will have to be an annual event.

In January, Barbara Holzkamp taught the children about evergreen trees, and their importance during the winter months. They learned how they provide shelter to small animals in the cold weather. Barbara always brings her knowledge about plants and trees. She had been a Pre-K teacher, so she always explains in a way the children can understand. We are looking forward to her returning in the Spring.

February was Healthy Heart Month in our Center. The children made healthy snacks, and had a visit from Nurse Meredith. She works with Alexis Alexander. She brought her stethoscope, and had the children each listened to their hearts before and after

exercise. I hear Meredith enjoyed it as much as the children did, and would like to come back to do another lesson.

February was also Dental Health month. We had a visit from a dentist who taught the children about how to take care of their teeth and gums. They all got new toothbrushes and toothpaste to take home.

The famous Holiday in February didn't go unnoticed by our staff and children. Everyone wore red and made delicious refreshments, along with some that the parents sent in.

You can see more pictures of activities, and news in the Center, by checking out our Facebook page. You can find it at Trinity Episcopal Church Roslyn Childcare Center – Facebook.

Happy Spring!

Leslie Weible, Consultant



OUTREACH

Jesus commands us: "You shall love the lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." This is what we strive to fulfill with our Outreach ministry. 2022 was a year filled with wonderful Outreach projects.

2023 Outreach has already begun. The blessing bags are ongoing throughout the year, and Easter baskets for Faith Mission in Mineola are under construction.

We are always looking for ideas to expand our Outreach ministry. Everyone's suggestions and help in whatever way is always welcome. We would like to bring back a rummage sale in some form this Spring/Summer. Thoughts?

I can always count on our Trinity family to support all our efforts to touch people's lives. Bring on the ideas, as the need is great.

Alexis Alexander

SPEAKING OF FAITH MISSION...



Photo by Brandon Duffy

Mary Joesten and her late husband, Edward, founded Faith Mission in 1969. It originally started as a soup kitchen based out of South Jamaica, Queens, and has since expanded into the current hospitality center in Mineola with multiple stops in between.

It's not hard to find something to do when walking around Faith Mission, the Mineola food pantry at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, located at 132 Jefferson Ave. Whether it's filling up the refrigerators in the kitchen with chicken, taking apart boxes of string cheese to conserve space or wheeling pallets from another Thursday morning delivery, there is always something to do.

Every Thursday morning, roughly 20 volunteers donate their time and energy to put together over 250 boxes of food for the families that line up every Saturday. Volunteers said the line can start as early as 8 a.m. and stretch for blocks. In the last year alone, Faith Mission provided over 11,000 boxes to families in need.

In 1999, Faith Mission opened its doors at the Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church in Freeport. In 2012, the soup kitchen moved into Roosevelt's First United Methodist Church in Roosevelt. Before coming to Mineola in 2020 as of this March, Joesten had her last operation at the Pope Francis Hospitality Center at Elmont's St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church.

Again Faith Mission is looking to move locations while Joesten searches for a space that can let her expand her services. "I want people to come in and have breakfast, maybe a lunch, before they take their boxes and go on their way," Joesten said. "I'm desperate to get my own place one day."

Aside from the food, Faith Mission recently held a coat drive for children, and later a Christmas drive, in which toys were given to more than 300 families. Additional community events include backpack drives in the fall held in conjunction with other local organizations and businesses.

Joesten said anyone interested in helping out can stop by the church on Thursday mornings or go to Faith Mission's website to find out more information (<https://www.faithmissioninc.org/>).

This is an edited version of an article published in the Roslyn Times by Brandon Duffy, Jan 18, 2023

ROBERT CHAPMAN

Those of you who have been members for a long time know my cousin Robert, who has been a part of Trinity off and on since 1960. His mother Jean used to sing in the choir. Our great-grandfather, James K. Davis, was one of the founders of Trinity.

Robert has a host of physical and mental disabilities which my family, in Michigan, was never privy to. After his mother died in 2002, he wasn't really able to manage and he hit a wall in 2010. I got a phone call at work from a man who asked, "Do you know your cousin's house is going to be sold at auction next Tuesday for nonpayment of taxes?" I was floored!

I was floored again when I learned from one of Robert's neighbors that he had been living without heat for almost a year. She had bought him a down jacket. He lost a lot of weight during that year!

My husband and I decided to go there and see what we could do to help. In the meantime, I called the church and asked if someone would visit Robert. Later I got a call from Mother Margo – she had visited him herself! She described to me how Robert had come to the door holding up his pants (that were way too big because of the weight loss). His hair and beard had been uncut since his mother died. Some people would have run away screaming, but not Mother Margo!

Robert invited her in and they sat down in the living room to talk. She described the scene to me – all the floors covered with newspapers and unopened mail, a mountain of papers in the middle of the living room. She described it as "kind of sculptural". Again, she didn't run away screaming. She was so kind and accepting, continuing for years with frequent communications as long as she was at Trinity.

Another aspect of having no heat was that pipes had burst upstairs, causing water damage downstairs – plaster falling down, etc. In addition, there was a leak in the basement in the pipe that led to the cesspool in the back yard, which, I learned, would have caused the house to be

condemned had any of the authorities known about it.

To make a long story short, I became Robert's legal guardian and my mother paid off the tax lien. My husband is a builder so, over time, he fixed everything (the leaking sewer pipe immediately!). I was an archivist so I was in heaven going through all those papers and making sense of them, getting intellectual control over Robert's financial affairs. My being out of state, the judge only required quarterly guardianship visits instead of monthly.

I have been so grateful to Trinity for all the help we received. Ann and Manuel Mingorance hosted Fred and me in their home during a number of our guardianship visits, before we felt that Robert could tolerate our staying upstairs in his home. Helen Oehrlein visited Robert once a week faithfully for a number of years, becoming close friends with Beverley Zamore, Robert's primary caregiver (who has worked with him since Jan. 2012!). She took them out for lunch sometimes, back when Robert was able to go out. She even worked in Aunt Jean's garden during covid, when Fred and I were unable to visit. Ken Oehrlein fixed things as needed.



*Robert Chapman, Beverly Zamore, Ann & Fred Ringia,
May 2021*

Mother Margo continued to be involved. She was a great help to me when I felt overwhelmed. In 2011 she counseled me, "Go step by step." and in 2012, "Don't look at what you still have to do; look back at what you've done and feel good about it." She was and is a true embodiment of God's love. I have felt God's involvement so often during this whole time. She, Mother Joanne, and Father George visited Robert at various time, prayed for him, and anointed him.

CHAPMAN continued

Several years ago, Robert's muscles started to decline and his neurologist ran some tests and found that he had motor neuron disease, probably ALS. Mother Joanne and Father George visited Robert together during their transition period and discussed end-of-life decisions with him. Mother Joanne sent me their findings, to be used only if needed. They were indeed needed. On February 10 there was a court hearing to authorize DNR/DNI, hospice care, and transfer to a hospice facility. Robert was in the hospital and they had discovered that he had advanced stomach cancer. He was not eligible for treatment because of his advanced ALS.

On February 15, Robert was moved from St. Francis Hospital up the street to the Sands Point Center, for hospice care. It is my hope that members of Trinity will send cards and even visit. Beverley is with him much of the time and I know she will appreciate whatever you can do.

Ann Ringia

UPDATE:

Robert subsequently died on February 20. Please keep Robert and his extended family in your prayers.

BURNING BOOKS



Our next Burning Books selection is *The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *March* (which we've read) and other best-selling books. The New York Times calls *The Secret Chord* "a thundering, gritty, emotionally devastating reconsideration of the story of King David." We'll meet on Monday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom.

On deck on a date TBD is *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell. All are welcome to join our stimulating discussion.

John Platt

MARDI GRAS

On Sunday, Feb 19 a Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast was held at Trinity. Many parishioners turned out for a delectable meal and enjoyed each other's company.



PARISH HAPPENINGS



BISHOP PROVENZANO VISITS TRINITY!

On December 4, Bishop Lawrence Provenzano visited Trinity Church and met with the Vestry after the service. Here he is with Fr. George at Coffee Hour. It was wonderful having him with us, and we hope he joins us again soon!



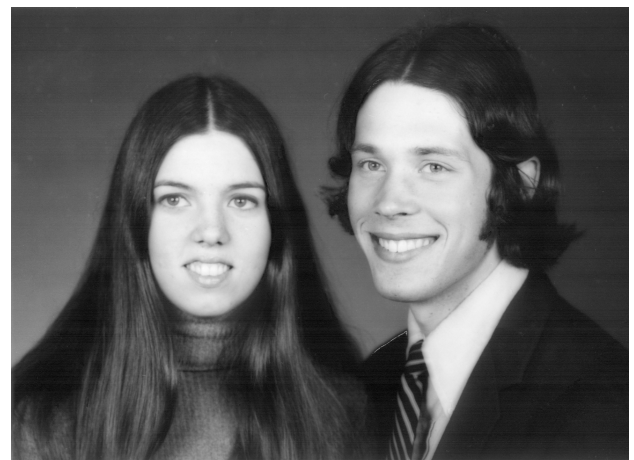
Chancel on Christmas Eve



Fr. George welcoming new vestry members & Warden, Jim Crawford on Sun, Feb 19 (absent- Ruth Fick)

CONGRATULATIONS

to Jim and Aleta Crawford on their 50th Anniversary on March 16th!



THEN (1973)



NOW (2023)

WAY TO GO!



John and Sheila Platt traveled to Kansas City in February for the Folk Alliance International Conference. In addition to enjoying dozens of showcases and inspiring speeches, John was inducted into the Folk DJ Hall of Fame.

Later in February, John and Sheila's daughter, Sarah Platt-Finger and her husband Alan Finger returned to the area for a special event at Buddha James Yoga Studio in Glen Cove. The evening included a talk by Sarah about Living in the Light, the book she has co-authored with Deepak Chopra (see photo above), a yoga class, and a meditation by Alan.

HEALING WISHES



Some of you may know that former parishioner, Rich Galante (now a Floridian), recently had a bad fall and broke his hip. I am happy to report that he has had surgery and is now recovering at home. Progress is slow, according to wife Janet, but we all know you can't keep a good man down! We wish him well during his recuperation.



Pictured above are Ruth & Peter Fick with visitors Barbara & Bill Holzkamp at Three Sisters Springs in Crystal River, FL, "Manatee Capital of the World".



A new labyrinth has been built in the Cloister Memorial Garden by Jim Crawford. Landscaping to follow soon! Stay tuned...



TRINITY TRANSITIONS

Grant Eternal Rest Unto Them. . .

Helen Ohrlein
Robert Chapman

COMING SOON...



A lecture by historian, author and former Newsday reporter Bill Bleyer on "The Sinking of the Steamboat Lexington on Long Island Sound: Long Island's Worst Maritime Disaster" will be held at Trinity Church on April 16 at 3 pm, sponsored by the Roslyn Landmark Society. Don't miss it!

KUDOS



Kristin Kutscher (Paula Johnson's daughter) is now Medical Director of 4 brand new veterinary hospitals in Manhattan. Here she is with her vet tech's 1 yr old mini pit bull Chyna. Wishing her much success!!!

NEW MEDIA COLUMN?

Bob deBruin thought it might be a good idea to have a place in Trinity Bells to share media recommendations that folks have found interesting or inspiring. Here are a few from Bob:

Podcasts

"Tim Ferris Podcast - Interview with Dr. Roland Griffiths" - Roland Griffiths heads up the psychedelic research program at Johns Hopkins which investigates the use of psychedelics to treat various forms of trauma. The interview takes place as he is dealing with stage 4 (probably terminal) cancer. He is a scientist / meditator with an inspiring attitude toward life.

TV

"Mission Joy – Finding Happiness in Troubled Times" (Netflix) – A conversation with the Dali Lama and Bishop Desmond Tutu on finding joy in the face of adversity.

Books

"Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers" by Robert Sapolsky – A scientific book with a good sense of humor about how the "stress response" is activated in humans, the damage it does to us physiologically, and strategies to deal with it.

"Helgoland (Making Sense of the Quantum Revolution)" by Carlos Rovelli – Carlos Rovelli is an Italian physicist who writes beautifully about the incomprehensible subject of quantum physics. Surprisingly readable, if not fully understandable, it produces a sense of awe about this universe we live in and trying to figure out how we fit in (hint: it's all about relationships)

What think you all?



Black bear found roaming near Leslie Weible's CT home

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The Mission Statement of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Church is a community where all are welcome. We seek to love God,
To learn and practice Jesus' teachings and to answer the call of those in need.

The Difference is in the Details...



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Sunday Services

10:00 Eucharist (in person & via Zoom)

**The Rev. George Sherrill,
Priest in Charge**

(516) 621-7925

www.trinityroslyn.org

fathergeorge@trinityroslyn.org

Larry Arnold, Organist

Ariann Huether, Minister of Music

Michael Callahan, Sexton

Ronit Meyers, Office Mgr.

Office Hours:

8:00 am- 2:00 pm (Mon-Thurs)

Vestry

Wardens: Sheila Platt & James Crawford

Rob Alexander

Mary LaSala

Bob deBruin

Ann Mingorance

Ruth Fick

Trinity Episcopal Church Roslyn Childcare Center

Joanna Sapienza, Acting Director

Leslie Weible, Consultant

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Outreach- Alexis Alexander (516-742-3215)

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Wishing all a blessed & joyous Easter!