



TRINITY TALK

May 2020

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TRINITY STRONG!!!!!!

(TNW April 16)

Get used to seeing this, because this is who we are. WE ARE TRINITY STRONG!

We have weathered 6 weeks apart, 6 weeks away from in-person worship at and in the church we love; we have kept in contact with each other; we have worked to make sure no one feels forgotten, checked in on those who are alone; and we will keep doing this as long as it takes to get back together because we are TRINITY STRONG.

And when we do get back together, oh, what a party we're going to have!

We don't know what the date's going to be, but here's some of the planning so far: there will be red hangings, and flowers, and music, and the Pentecost dove, and T-shirts for everyone (no charge; donations if you wish), maybe a banner, and for sure a huge pot-luck celebration in the parish hall, on the patio, and around the whole campus!

How about an all-parish photo? We haven't had one since 2006 - and a photo booth, and maybe games...? Inventive and creative minds welcome!

Now: as to the date.

We don't know that as yet, and so there may be some time lags here.

If the economy returns to "normal" gradually, based on testing and antibodies, then what we can do on campus at Trinity will also return gradually. We may in fact have rolling dates for various groups to be judged safe in easing restrictions, and we may be able to resume in-person worship gradually as well. There's no way to know at this point.

Know this, however: WE WILL NOT HAVE OUR HOMECOMING WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION UNTIL EVERYONE AT TRINITY IS ABLE TO BE PRESENT.

Only when ALL restrictions that pertain to our worship and our congregation are lifted will we celebrate together as a parish, together as one again.



From our Rector

.....*The Rev. Jeannie Martz*

“Curiouser and curiouser,” Alice commented as she grew so tall she could no longer see her feet in the hallway at the bottom of the rabbit’s hole.

“Curiouser and curiouser,” we say as the question of what the “new normal” for houses of worship (and everything else) will look like in the coming weeks – or, some still say, months – and what guidelines will be with us for far longer than we might expect. Will we still be able to see our feet?

The previous watershed experience most applicable for adjusting to life under new normals is, of course, 9/11. Before 9/11, there was no such thing as Homeland Security or the TSA, no such thing as 3 ounce containers in a zip-lock bag, no such thing as “passengers only” allowed at an airport gate...and yet we longer think twice about any of these.

We might rail against them or be frustrated by them and tired of taking off our shoes, but we’re no longer surprised that these restrictions and agencies exist. They have become our “normal” in the first two decades of the twenty-first century.

And now, here we go again.

As I’ve previously said, who would ever have thought we’d be required to put on a face mask BEFORE entering a bank or a liquor store?? Curiouser and curiouser.

In this curiouser and curiouser time when we still don’t know whether or not our feet will end up being in sight, or even in the same county, I’d like to thank everyone who is working to keep up with their pledge, either by mailing in their offerings or by giving online. We appreciate you very much, and thank you for your generosity!

(Amy is in the office for several hours a day, Monday through Friday, so both mailed and online gifts are being received and processed.)

This being said however, I know that some of us are having a really tough time financially these days; and you have my, and Rev. Annie’s, offer of assistance if needed. Please don’t hesitate to ask if necessary – really. (And don’t worry about your pledge.)

One almost-totally-unrelated thing I do want to bring to everyone’s attention is Gov. Newsom’s recent announcement of a new program designed to benefit qualifying seniors (at no cost to them) and jobless restaurant workers. The program, a partnership between FEMA, the state of California, counties, cities, and Tribes, is called “Restaurants Deliver: Home Meals for Seniors”, and it involves supplying at-risk seniors with three meals a day, seven days a week, for which they will be reimbursed up to \$66 per day.

Spoiler alert: even though Gov. Newsom announced this new program on April 24 and it was reported to be “in effect immediately”, as of yesterday (Wednesday the 29th), the local programs that will carry out the partnership are still getting established. In addition, eligibility requirements for seniors are not yet posted and sign-up details have yet to be announced.

Even so, the place to go for up-to-date information, as well as the eligibility and sign-up details once they’re available is <https://covid19.ca.gov/>. Once on the California COVID-19 website, click on “food resources page” (or any other link about food assistance programs), and scroll down until you see the “Restaurants Deliver” program.

The eligible population is defined as seniors who are “at high risk of exposure to the novel coronavirus or have compromised immune systems, and [who] have an income of no more than \$74,940 for an individual or \$101,460 for two.” (KTLA reporting, 4/24/20)

In addition to the website listed above, <https://covid19.ca.gov/>, KTLA reports that individuals can find out if they qualify by calling 211.

Curiouser and curiouser – or perhaps “Messier and messier”: check out Trinity’s online Morning Prayer service with homily at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings, followed by a 30 minute Zoom “coffee hour”. The service is on the internet platform Zoom, and the link to log on is emailed late Saturday afternoon or early Saturday evening. The text of the homily will be emailed later on Sunday as well as being posted to the Trinity Facebook page.

What will the new normal be for houses of worship – especially sacramental ones? I have no idea. Face masks and social distancing? Fewer pews in the nave, and blue tape on the ones that are there? Probably, at least for a while.

When will we be able to celebrate the Eucharist again in person, actually sharing the physical bread and wine? I have no idea – and at this point, neither do Bishop Taylor nor Presiding Bishop Curry.

It's going to be a curious new normal – but in a deliciously curiouser and curiouser way, the reality is that even when we can't see our feet, can't even remember what our feet look like, Jesus is here with us.

Jesus is here with us, heads, feet, and all of us in between. Jesus is walking with us, making phone calls with us, staying socially distanced with us, watching over the most vulnerable along with us.

Jesus is with health care workers, first responders, grieving families, and those who are still suffering from the virus.

Jesus is with the researchers, the grocery workers, the mail carriers, and everyone else putting themselves on the line.

Jesus is with each and every one of us, each and every day, whether we're aware of his presence or not – and we are still Jesus to others.

Curiouser and curiouser.

Thank you, Jesus.

James



05/07	Mark Shier and Duane Steadman
05/17	Randy and Jim Brink
05/22	Dan and Kristen Patterson
05/27	Pete and Elaine Weidner

GIVING IN APRIL

04/03	\$ 11,385
04/10	\$ 10,508
04/17	\$ 4,220
04/24	\$ 8,840

05/03	Pat Higgins	05/15	Yvonne Omer
	Guy Sinclair	05/16	Lisa Jewett
05/05	Gene Robinson		Jack Crabbs
	John Powers	05/17	Johnny Jaime
05/07	Adam Quintero	05/18	Lindsay Whipple
05/08	Reginald Elendu	05/19	Heather Eslick
05/09	Angelina Parque	05/20	Barbara Spangler
05/11	Carol Reynolds	05/23	Dubem Elendu
05/12	Cindy Nelson	05/24	Angharad Mulville
	Dennis Metzger		Stan Baker
05/13	Kathy Racine	05/26	Hal Parmenter
	Rich Heim		Laurel Baker
05/14	Amy Gavello	05/30	Marci Christian



MESSY CHURCH IS RETURNING—WE HOPE! Imagine sitting in your beach chair surrounded by friends and family worshipping God, celebrating life and having fun, all here on the back lawn at Trinity. One Saturday a month during the summer we will have an outside evening Eucharist where all are invited to participate and children tell the Bible story. This is a great way to include family members who aren't currently attending services and a wonderful way to introduce friends and neighbors to Trinity and the Episcopal Church. Our first Messy Church will be on **Saturday June 13th 5:30pm. (Tentative date-look for COVID updates)** Please bring a side dish, dessert, or appetizer to share, as well as something to add to the drink table - juice boxes, waters, soda, wine or beer. Don't forget your beach chair or blanket!

WHO'S DOING WHAT DURING STAY IN PLACE ORDER?

What are Trinity people doing during "safer at home"?

During this time of social distancing or as Bishop Taylor says "Holy Distancing" we are all doing our best to stay connected and healthy. Many of us are supporting and being supported by family, friends and neighbors through phone calls, errands, Facebook, FaceTime phone calls and Zoom meetings and Sunday Morning Prayer and coffee hour via Zoom. Many of us are working still working outside of our homes practicing safe distancing. Many of us are working from home. All parents are helping their children do school work using various Internet platforms. We are walking our dogs, working in our gardens, catching up on projects Or not! In short, we are all doing our best during "The Pause" to practice loving God, our neighbors and ourselves.

Here are a few specific activities:

Cheryl Sosa has been advanced to the next level and is a doctoral candidate!

Emma Sosa can't play water polo so she is taking martial arts on-line.

Amy Morales has a new grandson named Aiden Alexander Amaro born on April 19 weighing 9.2 pounds.

Marci Christian is sending out jokes via email to many of us.

Emerson Acevedo rapped about using leaves instead of toilet paper if all else fails.

Bilodeau Family is in the middle of a "who's the best breakfast cook" competition.

Robert Bilodeau just accepted entrance into John Hopkins University to study molecular and cell biology!

Jaime family got a new puppy named Leo!

Lisa and John Jewett are having tea parties with their youngest granddaughters via Zoom.

The Brink family is enjoying their new sports court and waiting on the completion of their swimming pool.

Cindy Nelson and her horse Ace are docents for our county parks and rode in Irvine park.

Lauren Ficaro and Betsy Little have shared their backyard bounty of citrus fruit.

All our kids who play soccer including Declan Anderson are practicing in their yards.

Sarah Candela and sons are delivering groceries and running errands for those in need.

Charles and Shannon Cobb are driving up to their new home in South Dakota.

Sarah Donaldson is driving with her boyfriend Devon to their new life in Illinois.

Chioma Elendu is one of the St. Joseph Hero's continuing to provide nursing care.

Ken Kimura has a new job in IT working the night shift and loves it.

The McCulloch's were able to spend time in their home in Lake Arrowhead.

Yvonne Omer has been helping members of Trinity during recovery from surgery.

Ed and Marilyn Calvin moved to Sparks, Nevada.

Ann and Pat Walker got an adorable puppy named Abby.

Donna Watson has been helping Trinity move into the era of Zoom!

Vestry members Donna Watson, Robert Morales, Robert Bilodeau, Scott Carbaugh, Rocky Covill, Karolyn Johns, Laurie McKinnel, Yvonne Omer, Jonnae Ostrom, Jack Reynolds, Bruce White, Roy Wojahn, Mike Donaldson and Rev. Jeannie have met via Zoom.

Trinity's contemplative prayer group sits in silence holding all of us up in prayer every Thursday evening at 7pm separately from their own homes.

Trinity telephone tree.... Over 25 of you reaching out weekly to check in with other members of our church via the phone.... Thank you all so much.

Rev Jeannie and Rev Annie have been on many clergy meetings via Zoom.

Amy and Gracie her dog have been managing the Trinity office a few hours each day.

A great BIG thank you to all who have faced their concerns, fears and frustrations to join us via Zoom on Sunday mornings. Thank you all so much for supporting us while we join together in "Messy" on-line church. Missing all of you!