



Dear People of God at Trinity Church:

As I am writing this letter, we are about to complete most of our activities for the 2022-23 program year: Sunday School Classes & Adult Forums, Men's group, First Friday Gatherings the Anti-Racism Book Study Group, Wednesday Bible Study, Youth Group, Choir, and all sorts of other activities. After everything we've been through since March 2020, getting to this point of the program year feels as if we've turned a corner in our parish life.

If activity levels constitute some measure of a vibrant community of faith, then I hope you will agree we're making headway towards vibrancy. Much of this activity is great news! I'm delighted to be a part of a community that loves to be together, that enjoys studying the Word of God together, that enjoys reading together and discussing what they've read, that enjoys eating together, that enjoys simply hanging out and sharing the stuff of life with one another. These are all activities that foster a sense of community, which is FAR more important than the content of a particular activity itself.

Recently, we completed two very important gatherings in the life of Trinity church, and I want to take a special moment to thank

everyone who helped make those events particular successes:

1. Our Dollars for Donuts fundraiser to help with Haitian resettlement in the United States, has raised well over \$3,000.00 and counting! Thank you!
2. Then, only a few short days after the Dollars for Donuts event, over 40 parishioners from Trinity church, gathered in the Parish Hall on a beautiful May Monday evening to hear about the housing inequality situation in the city of Milwaukee. What an amazing turnout! Again, Thank you!

These two commitments, the commitment to give for Haiti and the commitment to learn on behalf of Habitat for Humanity represent our continued connection and deep roots with two signature ministries with which Trinity Church has been involved with for decades. We are carrying on a tradition even as those partnerships evolve. This is truly exciting!

Of course, in the midst of all of this activity, we are also learning some things. We are learning the degree of activity our parish calendar can bear. We are learning what activities speak to different constituencies within the parish, and we are learning that people have lives outside of Trinity church! Who knew? (Hint: We ALL know!)

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Because of this, parishioners may very well want to be present for all of these activities, and yet family responsibilities, work responsibilities, and other community responsibilities beyond the parish preclude their participation. This is well and good. As Christians, we are not called to be an enclave gathered behind the doors of a building -- a community turned in on itself for itself. Rather, our building is a place where we come to gather **as the church**, for fellowship, support, refreshment, renewal, growth in our faith, and first and foremost, to worship God. All of these components of our common life enable us to live our Christian faith in the world that starts just outside the Trinity Church doors -- the world in which most of us live and move and have our being most of the time.

This summer, while many of the programs and activities named above will be "on hiatus," we will not be on hiatus. We will be engaged in planning for next program year. We will be reflecting upon what has worked, and what could work better. We will also be giving serious consideration to those parts of our parish life that we may be able to release by recognizing what activities or events are no longer speaking to whom we are becoming.

Quitting things is always a challenge, and yet in order to embrace whatever else God is calling us to be, we will have to let go of some things along the way. Once again this has been an incredible year. I'm grateful for all of you who have worked and served and given your energy to make sure that these events have taken place -- mostly without a hitch! We really can't do this simply by willing it to happen. There is no magic fairy dust! If an activity is going to happen, there are going to have to be people who organize it, facilitate it, who manage it, who do all the things necessary to make it happen, and then clean up after it, while everyone else heads home. For all of you behind the scenes people, you know who you are. Thank you!

And now, I hope everyone will be able to take a few deep breaths to enjoy some time of rest and renewal; to truly enjoy these few weeks of precious Wisconsin summer. I hope to see many of you at Sunday liturgies along the way as we continue to worship the Lord week by week. This is a beautiful world that we live in. Yes, there are challenges. Yes, there are problems. Yes, to all "the things," but stop, look around. Breathe deeply. Give thanks to God, know that I'm giving thanks to God for each and everyone of you.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary B. Manning" with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Rev'd Gary B. Manning, *Rector*



Congratulations to this year's High School Graduates

The following graduates will be recognized during the June 4th 10:00 am Liturgy.

Athena Anderson who is graduating from Wauwatosa East High and plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee to study a combination of math, science or engineering.

Emily Nicol who graduates from Wauwatosa East High and plans to attend Mount Mary College in the fall.

Noah Washburn who graduates from Greenfield High and plans to attend UW LaCrosse in the fall.

Chiara White who plans to attend the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul to study elementary education and to run cross country and track and field.



Trinity Sunday, June 4 is Legacy Sunday!

The Helen Hodges Walker Legacy Society encourages members of Trinity Church to provide a legacy gift benefiting Trinity or the Foundation. Gifts may be in the form of a designation in their will, naming Trinity as a beneficiary in their life insurance policy or retirement plan (401k or IRA), or in the form of a charitable remainder trust or other estate planning vehicle.

If you are interested in more information about the Legacy Society you may contact Dave Lorenz at 262-442-0693 or dlorenz1@sbcglobal.net.

Spring Bible Study!

It is not too late to join Gary and the Trinity Bible Study Gang for the conclusion of the spring Bible Study. The final chapters to be read are:

June 7 — 2 & 3 John
June 14 — Jude

The study takes place via Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7:00—8:30 pm. The Zoom login: Meeting ID: 850 3195 1433 Passcode: 354418

Festive Coffee Hour to celebrate Tom Koester June 11

Join us in the parish hall to celebrate Tom Koester, at a festive coffee hour following the 10:00 am liturgy on Sunday, June 11.



Tom's last Sunday as Minister of Music at Trinity will be on June 18.

Take a moment to send Tom your words of

appreciation and encouragement with cards addressed to him c/o Trinity Church or in an email to t.koester@att.net. Tom has been leading the choir in worship for 9 years!

His presence will be missed. Tom has accepted a call to work full time with Roman Catholic parishes in Milwaukee. We give thanks to Tom for sharing his gift of music with us.



"Dinner-On-The-Go" -- A New Name for a Longtime Trinity Ministry

For a number of years, a faithful group of folks have been gathering in the Trinity Parish Hall to make sandwiches, and put those sandwiches (along with all sorts of other food items) into easy to carry paper bags. We then deliver those meals to the Gathering (a local feeding ministry Trinity has supported for decades.) We have been referring to these portable meals as "bag lunches," BUT...the bags are actually used to provide dinner for those who receive Saturday lunch at the site.

Currently, there are no free meal sites for Saturday dinner in Milwaukee, and without our efforts and the efforts of others week by week, many of the Gathering guests would not have a dinner meal on those days.

We will be preparing Dinner-On-The-Go on the following dates throughout the summer:

June 16

July 21

August 18.

Mark your calendars now, and then watch the *Tidings*, E-News, and Sunday Bulletins for more detailed information as we get closer to the dates. If you would like to support this ministry through contributions of items or money, please contact Jill Paradowski at jill.paradowski@gmail.com.



Road Closures: Sunday, June 25

Access to the Village will be limited and primarily foot traffic only from 8 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 25 for the Tosa Village Classic Tour of America's Dairyland's 11-day competitive road cycling series. There will be several designated crosswalks staffed throughout the event to allow spectators, residents, and business staff to enter and exit the area. This event is stationed at [Cafe Hollander](#) in the [Tosa Village District](#).



It's Back! The Annual Parish Picnic!

When: July 9th following the 10:00 am liturgy.

Where: We will gather outside on the green space near the kitchen's back door.

What's provided: Hot dogs, brats, buns, lemonade and water.

What to bring: Your favorite picnic dish to pass. Watch for updates in the bulletins and e-news. No need to sign up to attend. Games for kids and adults will be available. Please e-mail jill.paradowski@gmail.com if you have a pop-up tent. Contact the committee of Jill Paradowski, Laura Toro or Denise Curran if you would like to help.



Rummage Sale News!

July 29th 8:00 am—3:00 pm

Begin saving your “good stuff” rummage. Start bringing your rummage to the fellowship hall on Sunday July 16th or whenever the parish office is open.

To allow adequate time to set up for the sale, please do not bring any rummage after July 25. If you need to deliver your rummage after office hours, please make arrangements with Jill Paradowski (414-704-7840) and she will meet you at the church.

Books: If you contribute books, please bring them in a box and set them on the south wall under the label “Books”. Everything else can be placed in the corner and it will be unpacked by the volunteers.

Furniture and Clothing: We are not accepting these items. Please donate your clothing to Street Angels or Fr. Gene’s by placing them in the bins outside the parish office and downstairs near the library. We will not be pricing items but will be asking shoppers to make a donation for all purchased items. Habitat’s Faith House and Sojourner Peace Center will benefit from the proceeds of the sale. In 2021, Trinity almost doubled its usual income from the sale for a total of \$2,000.

If you would like to help on the sale day, contact Jill Paradowski Jill.paradowski@gmail.com



Awesome Auction For Outreach

November 4, 2023 on-line and in-person

Theme: “Fun and Games” or “Games and Fun Night” either way it will be a fun night.

- On-line several days before the auction and in-person on November 4.
- We will use the same auction on-line site as last year: 32 Auctions, with added features.
- The Awesome Auction is the main fund raising event for outreach for Trinity Church. Outreach is not a budgeted item—all money raised goes to support programs outside Trinity’s doors.
- Look for special events prior to the start of the Awesome Auction.
- **We need your donations.** Ask for donations from businesses you frequent. Donate a service or your special talent. Donation forms are available upon request. New ideas are welcome. Contact Jill Paradowski at jill.paradowski@gmail.com.
- Watch the bulletins, Thursday e-news and *Tidings* for updates prior to the auction.



Scan the QR code with your mobile device to use Vanco, Trinity Church’s online giving platform. By using this web-based service you may set up automatic withdrawals from your checking account or make automatic payments on your credit card. [Vanco Payment Solutions](#) will also allow you to make one-time contributions for gifts to Trinity.

Summer Reading Project: An Invitation from the Rector

For nearly a decade now, I've been on a personal journey to understand more deeply the complexities of racism in the United States. As a native Southerner, I thought I understood something of the history which shaped and formed me, but I had always (incorrectly) assumed that racism was mostly a matter of individual choice. I have, however, come to recognize that this sort of naïveté is the byproduct of my status as a white male in our society. Beginning with the killing of Michael Brown by police in Ferguson, Missouri in August 2014, which was closely followed by the mass murder of nine African American church folks at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston by a white supremacist in 2015, I found myself inescapably confronted with the reality that racism isn't a "personal problem," it's a societal problem.

Of course, these specific events, which started me on this journey of self-examination, repentance, and attempts at amendment of life, weren't the first such acts of violence against people of color. As I have delved back into our country's history, I have discovered that the story of our country I learned in 1970s Virginia had been thoroughly "whitewashed." In the spring of 2020, I was sickened by the out-and-out murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police. Here in Wauwatosa, we've had our own struggles with matters of race and policing, and those struggles prompted me to heed the then-Mayor's invitation to serve for a year as a founding member of our city's Equity and Inclusion Commission. My personal journey continues.

In 2015, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church elected the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry to be our 27th Presiding Bishop. Bishop Curry is also the first African-American to be elected to this post. Early on in his tenure, the Presiding Bishop identified three priorities which would frame his time in office:

1. Racial Reconciliation
2. Evangelism
3. Creation Care

Since that time, the Church Center (Executive Offices of the Episcopal Church) in New York has provided a variety of resources and initiatives aimed at encouraging congregations to focus on these three priorities. As you might expect, many of these efforts were impeded during the course of the pandemic because congregations were understandably focused on all the things necessary to stay connected with each other during the extended months of isolation. Nevertheless, here at Trinity, some things have happened in our own efforts to participate in the process of racial reconciliation:

1. Soon after the murder of George Floyd in 2020, many Trinity parishioners, along with friends and colleagues of mine from all over the country participated in a Zoom book study of Ibrahim Kendi's book, *How to Be an Anti-Racist*.
2. Between late 2021 and the summer of 2022, members of the Trinity Vestry participated in a series of monthly Zoom meetings to engage with and discuss the film/reading series, *Sacred Ground*, which is produced by the Episcopal Church.

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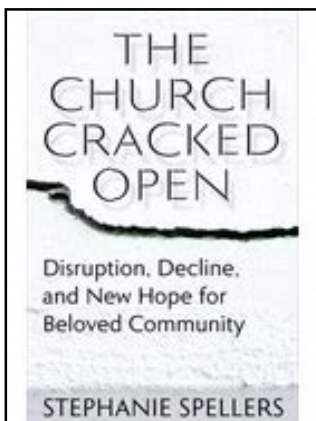
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3. In September 2022, we screened the documentary, *Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America*, in the Trinity Parish Hall as a way of launching what has become the Anti-Racist Study Group.

4. In December 2022, members of the Study Group and members of the Trinity Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) toured America's Black Holocaust Museum in Milwaukee.

5. Earlier last month, the Trinity Outreach Committee, along with the Study Group, hosted an evening workshop led by folks from Habitat for Humanity, in which we learned about the history of housing inequality in Milwaukee and Milwaukee County.

I am realistic enough to understand "reading books and learning facts" are often seen as a ploy by white folks to avoid doing the hard work of dismantling systemic racism. And, yet, I'm also aware it's in educating ourselves to look beyond our comfortable narratives, that we're able to catch a glimpse of hopeful possibility, and be spurred toward meaningful action. To that end, I'd like to invite parishioners to join me, members of the Trinity Vestry and the Anti-Racist Study Group in a summer reading project.



The Study Group, Vestry and I have begun reading, *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline and New Hope for Beloved Community*, by the Rev'd. Stephanie Spellers, who is an Episcopal priest and works on the staff of

the Presiding Bishop. I will be the first to admit

that this book, though short, is not an easy read. Spellers uses a direct writing style, and she does not shy away from naming many of the challenges confronting our denomination. She accurately notes that the pandemic has accelerated the membership decline which the Episcopal Church has been experiencing since the 1960s. She is unflinching in describing how our outsized influence as a historically small denomination was tied up in the unjust systems which continue to be perpetuated in the United States today. That said, I find her critique to be grounded in her love of God, her love of the Gospel, and her love for her Church.

As one reviewer writes, "In this critical yet loving book, the author explores the American story and the Episcopal story in order to find out how communities steeped in racism, establishment, and privilege can at last fall in love with Jesus, walk humbly with the most vulnerable and embody beloved community in our own broken but beautiful way..."

I will be ordering a few copies of this book for the Parish Library. If you'd like to have me order a copy for you, please email me at tosapriest@gmail.com. Our current plan is to have at least two conversations about the book in late August and mid-September. Watch the *Tidings*, E-News, and Sunday Bulletins in the coming weeks for further details.

This journey towards racial reconciliation isn't going to be completed in our lifetimes, but just because we're not going to see the finish line doesn't mean we can drop out of the race. The Gospel of Christ urges us on. My prayer is that together, we will continue to discern ways in which Trinity Church can "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God."

Dear friends of Trinity Parish,

As I prepare to leave my role as music director on Sunday, June 18th, I must begin by telling you what a delight it has been to serve as organist and choir director these past 9 years. I am deeply grateful for your warm welcome and your unending and gracious support along our journey together.

Let me name just a few reasons for my gratitude! Both the parish and leadership (Pastor Gary and the Vestry) have been open and responsive to new ways of praying together. In addition to your great tradition of hymn singing, you have enthusiastically embraced broader styles of liturgical song. We have shared some deeply meaningful and beautiful Holy Week and ecumenical Taizé Services together. We worked together on building our leaders of song with new efforts like the Trinity Choral Scholars. Although the Covid pandemic put a pause on that effort, interest in the choir has continued to grow and these ministers of song have become stronger and more confident in their leadership. I am grateful that during the several years of the pandemic this community has managed to keep sung worship a priority. I know that you are grateful, as am I, for Pastor Gary's love of the liturgy and his thoughtful, always insightful, and challenging sermons. I will truly miss hearing them! In addition, I must humbly say what a gift and privilege it has been to serve with such a talented minister and such a truly collaborative leader.

So, what is the reason for my departure from Trinity at this time? As Pastor Gary explained so well in his letter several weeks ago, an opportunity has opened for me to return to the church of my own faith tradition at the community of Ss. Peter and Paul - a church which I began serving some 34 years ago. Because of the priest shortage in the Catholic archdiocese, this single parish which I had served is now a member of a "family of four" eastside parishes. I will be sharing my time between two of them, Saints Peter and Paul and Old Saint Mary's in downtown Milwaukee. I have felt the nudge of the spirit to return and contribute to the life of my faith tradition once again. A side benefit is that this return provides an opportunity for me and my wife, Maria, to worship together once again during evening Mass as she continues to serve as Sunday morning musician at Kingo Lutheran, ELCA.

I take leave of you Trinity folks feeling fortunate to have labored in the Lord's field together. I truly believe that God's spirit is fully active and working at Trinity Church and that the parish's future is bright.

~ *Tom Koester*

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 6:00 pm First Friday Fellowship	3
4 Trinity Sunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist High School Recognition Fellowship	5 6:30 pm Men's Group	6	7 7:00 pm Bible Study	8	9	10
11 2 Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Festive Coffee Hour to celebrate Tom Koester	12	13	14 7:00 pm Bible Study	15	16 6:30 pm Sandwiches for the Gathering	17
18 3 Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Fellowship	19 6:30 pm Anti-Racist Study Group	20	21	22	23	24
25 4 Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Fellowship	26	27	28	29	30	

TIDINGS

Trinity Church
1717 Church Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
June, 2023



Pictures from Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity Workshop—May 15



Thank you to everyone who attended the above workshop to hear about the housing inequality situation in the city of Milwaukee.