

# The Message

The Newsletter of

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral - Little Rock, Arkansas

A House of Prayer for All People

Pentecost 2021

## Transformation, Transition, Adjustment

by *The Very Rev. Amy Dafler Meaux, Dean and Rector*

I recently read somewhere, “Change is stress.” I stopped for a moment when I read it. Yes, it is true, change is hard—and also necessary; a natural part of life. Change is how we grow physically, mentally, and spiritually. Still, when change happens, it can really throw me off balance. I remember walking into the grocery store one day and everything was moved. It was stressful. Even though I know to expect change every day, change is still hard.

My friends, we will face a lot of change over these next few months.

In this newsletter, you will find several staff changes coming this summer. We are sad to see some of our favorites leave: Canon Snapp, The Reverend Dr. Stuart Hoke, and Jason Pennington-Saugey. We have a new Director of Music arriving mid-July, and will begin a

search for a new priest this summer. I hope you’ll pray for all of these ministers and for the Cathedral during all of these transitions.

It has been a huge blessing to gather together in worship since Lent! The CDC recommendations continue to guide us as we discern how we can gather safely. We will always seek to protect the most vulnerable in our community, especially children. As we begin to open our campus more and more, there will be some discernment: will we have hybrid meetings; how can we open the nursery; when is it appropriate to continue mask wearing and social distancing? Please pray for the Cathedral as we seek to remain a safe place of prayer for all people.

It has to be said, we will not have air conditioning

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## Setting the Table For a Feast

by *The Rev. Canon Dr. Russell Snapp, Sub-Dean*

I love how we call the highest days on our church calendar “feasts”! On page 16 of the Book of Common Prayer, we read that “All Sundays of the year are feasts of our Lord Jesus Christ.” This is the day of the Resurrection, so of course all Sundays are feasts, even in Lent. (By the way, the forty days of Lent do not include Sundays; hence, they are Sundays in Lent, not of Lent.)

Of course some Sundays in the year are especially prominent feasts, including the next two Sundays. This coming Sunday, May 23, is one of the big three. Christmas and Easter are past, and now, fifty days after Easter Day, we celebrate the Day of Pentecost, following

the timing of St. Luke’s account in the book of Acts. This is the day when the promised gift of the Holy Spirit descended on the new-born Church. It is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. In our Anglican tradition, it is also known as Whitsunday (“White Sunday”), which is so named because Holy Baptism was often celebrated in England on that day due to the weather being too cold at Easter. The “white” was the color of baptismal gowns. Now, however, our liturgical color for the day is red, because on the Day of Pentecost, “divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them [the Apostles], and a tongue rested on each of them. All

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## Trinity Cathedral Staff

## Dean and Rector

The Very Rev. Amy  
Dafler Meaux

## Clergy

The Rev. Deb Cooper  
The Rev. Dr. Lisa Corry  
The Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke  
The Rev. Susan Payne  
The Rev. Canon  
Dr. J. Russell Snapp

## Lay Staff

Jack Dowling  
Joe Harris  
Dawn Howe  
Ricky Parks  
Mary Penick Hodges  
Jason  
Pennington-Saugey  
Wyamon Stokes  
Jeanie Toombs

## ECEP

Christy Poindexter

## The Vestry

Senior Warden  
Neal Lea  
Junior Warden  
Tom Fennell  
Treasurer  
Herschel Cast  
Clerk  
Lisa McNeir  
Member-at-Large  
Susan Borné

## Steve Bethel

Tom Clark  
Terri Erwin  
Sarah Henry  
Harold Joyner  
Susan Mehlberger  
John Milwee  
Melissa Whitfield  
Jennifer Wilson-Harvey  
Mary Margaret Wippo  
Marcia Wayland

## Chancellor

Clarke Tucker

## Transformation, Transition, Adjustment

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in the Cathedral this summer. As we work to get the HVAC replaced, we will move worship to Chancellors' Hall in late June, hoping to return by August. (There is fondly remembered precedent for worship in Chancellors' Hall.) This is not an easy decision to make since we have just returned to worship in the Cathedral! (we believe it necessary in the midst of Arkansas summer!) Please pray that we are able to return to the Cathedral as soon as possible.

That's a lot of transformation, transition and adjustment, or simply change; and those are just the ones we can anticipate. Certainly, God will offer more opportunity for growth.

We know that the first followers of Jesus experienced immense change. They had to learn all Jesus taught them about God's kin-dom and the Torah. They witnessed his death, resurrection, and ascension: terrifying and mysterious revelations of God's reconciling work

## Setting the Table

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of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages [tongues], as the Spirit gave them ability." Through the power of the Spirit, divisions were overcome, with people of many different languages, gathered in Jerusalem, understanding the good news the disciples were proclaiming. This year, our Pentecost celebration will reflect the original event by including the reading of the gospel in several different languages. As usual on Pentecost, Bishop Benfield will make his annual visitation to the Cathedral parish for baptism, confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation. We all will have the opportunity to renew our baptismal vows and support individuals coming before the Bishop at these milestones of their Christian journey. Our Pentecost celebration will continue with a festive Evensong that day at 5 p.m.

The following Sunday, May 30, is our feast of title, Trinity Sunday. It always occurs on the Sunday following the Day

through Christ. On Pentecost, they were driven out of the Upper Room and into ministry among the people. That's a lot of change! And this is only the beginning! Soon these early followers of Jesus navigated incorporating new members in the community. They wondered how Torah law would apply to Gentiles; even how Torah law applied to them. We know that none of this change was easy. Paul's letters and the Acts of the Apostles tell stories of the ways change united and divided them. Again and again, the leaders of this new community trusted Jesus' leadership. As they faced the impact of change on their community, they remembered how he loved; they tried to share love in the same way.

May God grant us courage and strength to love as we are loved. May Christ teach us to love as we are loved. May the Spirit bind us to one another, uniting us in this love.

Amy

of Pentecost and, we might say, rounds off the first half of the church year, which began with Advent. After focusing on Christ's Incarnation, Epiphany, Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit, we celebrate how all this has revealed to the Church the Triune nature of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a mysterious Trinity in Unity, which is the source of all life and all love. Music for this Sunday, as well as for the Day of Pentecost, will be especially grand. I will be honored, on my last Sunday as Sub-Dean, with the opportunity to preach and with a reception after the 10 a.m. Eucharist. I will also be presiding at the 5 p.m. Evensong on Trinity Sunday.

If at all possible, please join in the celebration of these two special feasts at Trinity, either in person or through our online broadcasts. God bless and keep us all as we move into God's future.

Russ Snapp

## Mother's Day Purse Drive

So many things were disrupted by the pandemic last year, including Trinity's annual Mother's Day collection of purses for families in need.

This year, the Matthew 25 folks were determined not to let Mother's Day go by without providing kids with gift wrapped purses they could give their moms. They put out the word that they wanted to collect 125 purses.

Early in the morning of May 2, before the 10 a.m. service about 70 gift bags with purses were arranged at the front of the church. Would we make our goal of 125 Mother's Day presents? As folks began arriving for the service, people streamed to the front of the church with gift bags. The collection grew and grew threatening to block access to the Chancel steps.

Following the announcements, Dean Meaux and the other clergy blessed the purses in the name of Jesus who, we were reminded, had a human mother.

After the service the bags were organized in groups

of ten. Rows and rows of colorful bags, thirteen in all with three left over. (Sunday afternoon and Monday morning even more bags came in for a total of over 150!) A record number of purses had been collected.

To each bag was added a packet of feminine hygiene products provided by the Arkansas Women's Outreach, and organization that promotes the wellbeing of local homeless women through access to the basic items women need.

All counted and ready for delivery, 100 bags were set aside for Our House. The rest were delivered to Arkansas Children's Hospital and Dorcus House and were received with gratitude. In the words of a staff member at Our House, "This donation will put a smile on so many mom's faces."

Thank you to the Matthew 25 group for organizing this event and for the tremendous generosity of the many people who brought purses. It is a true testament to the commitment Trinity has to serve our community.



Top: Dean Meaux blesses the purses. bottom left Mary Margaret Wippo and Elizabeth Smith delivering purses to Children's Hospital. bottom right: Mary Margaret and Laura Schock with staff at Our House.

## The Message

A newsletter about life at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Send correspondence & address corrections to:

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## Youth and Children News

Christ Church & Trinity Cathedral Presents:

## VBS 2021: Won't You Be My Neighbor?

June 14- June 18, 2021  
9-11AM, TRINITY CATHEDRAL

AGES: 3 YEARS OLD-  
COMPLETED 5TH GRADE

How are we called to love our neighbor?

Join us as we discussing who our neighbors are and the ways God calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves

To register your child and to volunteer please visit:  
<https://forms.gle/DksuaT4UW9AoJnkK7>

Please contact Marlin McLendon or Hannah Hooker at [nimidenon@christchurchcc.org](mailto:nimidenon@christchurchcc.org) / [hhooker@trinitycath.org](mailto:hhooker@trinitycath.org) or Lisa Lorry at [www.arkansas.anglican.org](http://www.arkansas.anglican.org).




## Send in Your Photos

Beginning in late May the Diocese EYC will post photos of seniors to its instagram account at <https://www.instagram.com/eycarkansas/> and our Facebook account at <https://www.facebook.com/EYCArkansas/>.

Seniors should go here and fill out the form. <http://eycarkansas.org/seniors/> to participate.

## Episcoplooza Extravaganza

Saturday, July 24th, at St. Margaret's, Little Rock

Episcoplooza is a daylong summer event for youth in Arkansas. It will be a celebration of all things Episcopal, with games, music, and special guests including Bishop Benfield and Mother Curtis from Episcopal Collegiate. The day will be divided into three sessions, according to the grade you completed in 2021. The cost is \$10 per person with a maximum of \$25 per household. This will include a special LIMITED EDITION Episcopal Arkansas T-Shirt and all the art supplies you will need for the day.

Register at: <http://episcoplooza.org/>



*All are welcome at God's feast*



*Two lads in their Easter season finery*

# St. Francis House Needs a New Truck

## And Trinity can help

An oil leak, a battery system that won't hold a charge, bad transmission, and a sticky accelerator. Holes in the floor of the box which is separating from the cab! These are all things that afflict the poor truck that has served St. Francis House well. The truck has been used to pick up furniture donations, collect tons of groceries from the Food Bank and make deliveries of gifts at Christmas, but her days are done!

St. Francis House is looking to purchase a used box truck so they can pick up food and donations and take donations to their satellite offices around Arkansas. For \$34,000, St. Francis can get a used truck in fair condition with low mileage. For another \$10-\$15,000, they can purchase a truck that will really be in great shape.

Saint Mark's in Little Rock has challenged Trinity to match the \$10,000 they pledged to get the campaign rolling! Dean Meaux and the Executive Committee

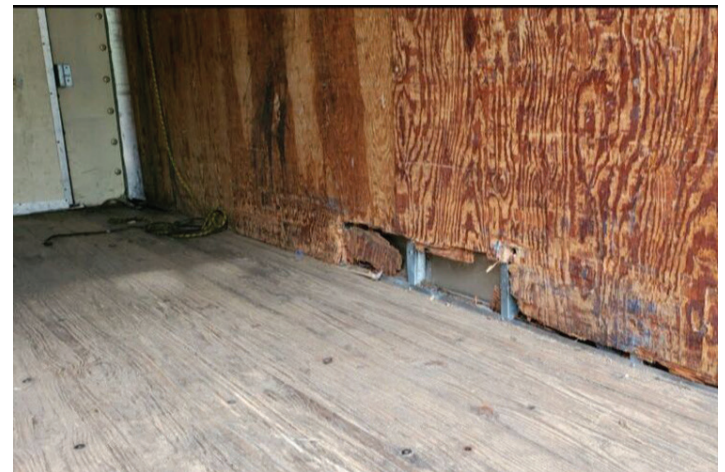
accepted the challenge, and we already have \$5,000 in verbal pledges.

This truck is crucial to St. Francis' ability to serve our community and Veteran clients! Trinity is joining in this effort by Episcopal churches in Little Rock to make this happen. Bishop Benfield has committed \$4,000 from his discretionary fund, St. Micheal's has pledged \$10,000, St. Margaret's has pledged \$5,000 and Christ Church has made a gift.

We would like to have this fund drive completed by Trinity Sunday on May 30. Checks may be made out to Trinity Cathedral with "Truck" in the memo. It is also easy to donate to the St. Francis Truck Fund through Realm ([onrealm.org/trinitylittlerock/give/now](http://onrealm.org/trinitylittlerock/give/now)).

You can find out more about the vital work St. Francis is doing in our community by visiting their website, [stfrancishouselr.org/](http://stfrancishouselr.org/).

**\$5,000 in lead gifts have been pledged from the Trinity Community.**



## Ministry Partners

### Stewpot Feeding Program

The primary mission of Stewpot is to Feed the Hungry - "Feed whoever walks through our doors". Folks from Trinity have been preparing and serving meals with Stewpot, housed at First Presbyterian Church for over 30 years.

When the pandemic hit, clients could no longer walk through the doors to get a hearty meal. Without missing a day, volunteers switched the model to preparing sack lunches to be distributed at the site. Currently 125 lunches are prepared each day, Monday through Friday.

A peanut butter sandwich is always the anchor of the lunch, providing a filling, protein packed treat that can be safely saved for later. A second sandwich is included and might be chicken or tuna salad, or

pimiento cheese. Also in the sack are chips, fruit cups and maybe a sweet treat. On Fridays, a serving of something hot, like pork and beans replaces the second sandwich and the lunch bag is loaded up with extra items to help folks get through the weekend.

Trinity volunteers work every other Monday, and the shift starts at 9 am and lasts for a couple hours until 125 sack lunches are prepared. The work is rewarding, and there is a lot of good camaraderie.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more about this worthwhile ministry contact Kay Shurgar at 501-681-4407. Stewpot can also use donated items for their clothing closet. They are always in need of men's shoes and pants, any size. Items may be left in the church office.



*Trinity volunteers and others working to prepare 125 hearty sack lunches.*

### Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EfM) may be one of the best kept secrets at Trinity. Education for Ministry is an intimidating name, but it is not for discernment of a priestly vocation. It is about ministry in a broader sense - learning to listen to God's call to ministry in daily life. EfM supports your development of a personal ministry and helps define how ministry takes shape for you in an everyday context, unique to your time, talents, and the issues that motivate you to action.

EfM is a seminar-style program developed by Sewanee's School of Theology more than 40 years ago. It is a four-year program, but you commit one year at a time. Across the 4 years participants read the entire Bible with texts that provide context, a book on the history of Christianity, and short books on Christian theology, ethics, and interfaith perspectives. People from all years are together in the group. It sounds awkward with people having different readings each week, but it is magical hearing each other talk about their readings and

finding new connections across the readings.

Though we read the bible in EfM, it is not a bible study. The most important part of EfM is Theological Reflection (TR). We often hear about the three-legged stool of Scripture, tradition, and reason. In EfM we add our experiences to this mix in Theological Reflection. TR is a creative, guided discussion that helps us see the sacred in ordinary things and events. It helps us discern what we are called to do and how to better the world around us.

From the TR, we create a Collect from our discussion. This helps us pray with our own words and remember our reflections.

EfM is a 36 week program, and our group at Trinity meets Sunday afternoons from 1:30 – 3:30 from late August through May. We would love to have you join our group. If you are interested or have any questions, feel free to contact Marcia Wayland at [marcia.wayland@gmail.com](mailto:marcia.wayland@gmail.com)

## Staff News

### Father Hoke to shepherd St. Mark's



The Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke sees himself as an ambassador from Trinity to the diocese and in that spirit he will be away from Trinity for a period as he joins St. Mark's, Little Rock as Interim Rector. We wish him the best and will support him with our prayers until he returns.

Here is a message from Stuart:

As a hymn lover, I'm forever recollecting a sacred song to accompany just about any situation. Currently, it's "Go forth for God, go to the world in joy, to serve God's people every day and hour..." I happen to be "going forth" as the hymn instructs—departing the Cathedral for a season to undertake the interim rectorship at St. Mark's, Little Rock. I was the Assistant to the Rector at St. Mark's in the mid 1970s, and pleased for the opportunity to serve there again some 47 years later. I begin the new work on July 1, and will be stationed at our sister congregation until the Vestry of St. Mark's calls a new rector. As disciples of Jesus we are all called forth to be missionaries. Might this be a hymn we all can sing:

*Go forth for God, go to the world in love;  
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;  
help the afflicted; richly from above  
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.*

### New music director called



We are excited to announce that Colin MacKnight will start as our new Music Director on July 12.

Colin, called "a stunning player of exceptional ability" by composer and conductor Bob Chilcott, will complete his doctorate in organ performance at The Juilliard School (where he also received his bachelor's and master's degrees) in June. He currently serves as Associate Organist and Choirmaster at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, Long Island. Prior to Incarnation, he was Assistant Organist and Music Theory Teacher at St. Thomas Fifth Avenue and Assistant Organist at Church of the Resurrection, both in New York City.

Colin has won first prizes in several competitions, including the Paris Music Competition, West Chester University International Organ Competition, Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition, Arthur Poister Competition, American Guild of Organists (AGO) Northeast Regional Competition, and the Rodgers North American Classical Organ Competition. He was also a laureate in the 2016 and 2019 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competitions.

Colin received the Fellow and Choirmaster Certifications from the AGO, receiving the prize for that year's top Choirmaster score, and was named one of the top "20 Under 30" eminent young organists by The Diapason magazine in 2019. For more information, about Colin and to see videos of him playing visit [colinmacknight.com](http://colinmacknight.com).

## Instructed Eucharist, Sunday, May 16

