



TRINITY MATTERS AUGUST 2018

Report on General Convention – Fr Ron Crocker

Every three years, the Episcopal Church meets in General Convention. The Convention is comprised of the House of Bishops (current active bishops) and the House of Deputies (clergy and laity elected by their diocese). Because so much transpires in General Convention, I assumed that the most accurate way to report on this year's General Convention was to share portions of the Episcopal New Service's posting of July 16, 2018. Using their posting, I shared what I considered to be salient outcomes of the Convention. A full report is found on the diocesan website, <https://www.diocesewma.org/>.

[Episcopal News Service] Responding to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's call to "Follow the Way of Jesus," deputies and bishops at the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, meeting July 5-13 in Austin, Texas, acted on a record number of resolutions on key issues such as immigration, prayer book revision, Israel-Palestine, and readmitting the Episcopal Church of Cuba as a diocese. Convention also passed a \$134 million budget that reflects for a further three years the presiding bishop's priorities of evangelism, racial reconciliation and creation care.

Outside the legislative chambers, several events brought together bishops, deputies and visitors to mingle, socialize, pray, worship and advocate, with a public witness against gun violence and another outside an immigrant detention center challenging the actions of the U.S. government in its enforcement of immigration policies. A revival service at Austin's Palmer Events Center on July 7 drew a crowd of more than 2,500 people who listened to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's rousing sermon about how "God is love and gives life."

In his opening sermon on July 5, Curry challenged every Episcopalian to embrace the "Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-centered life" as a way to help the church enter into a new era of spiritual growth.

[General Convention – continued on page 7]

TRINITY EVENTS IN AUGUST

Friday, August 3 – The Parish Office is closed today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 5 –Coins for IHN Sunday

9:15 am Fellowship Begins
9:50 am Call to worship and organ prelude
10 am Holy Eucharist

Monday, August 6 – The Transfiguration of Our Lord, Jesus Christ

Friday, August 10 – The Parish Office is closed today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 12

9:15 am Fellowship Begins
9:50 am Call to worship and organ prelude
10 am Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, August 14

11:30 am Trinity Women – Potluck Lunch

Wednesday, August 15 – St. Mary the Virgin

TWIM payments due today

Thursday, August 16

7 pm Vestry Meeting
Members of Trinity are welcome to attend monthly vestry meetings.

Friday, August 17 The Parish Office is Closed Today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 19

9:15 am Fellowship Begins
9:50 am Call to worship and organ prelude
10 am Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, August 21

Gift Cards for St. Anne’s School Supplies should be received by today.

Friday, August 24 – St. Bartholomew The Parish Office is Closed Today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 26

10 am Mutual Ministries - Worship at Dean Park with Wellspring and Mt. Olivet

Friday, August 31 The Parish Office is Closed Today for “Vacation Day Friday”

VESTRY CORNER

The Trinity Vestry met on July 12, 2018. Here are the condensed highlights of that meeting:

Warden Report - Catherine Foster

- Carolann Tebbetts has resigned as Jr. Warden. The Vestry respects Carolann's decision and is very grateful for her tremendous contribution while in office. Linda Jackson will temporarily take on some of the duties; Ron Alarie will oversee Facilities; Dan Morgado will lead the Tree Sales Team; and Catherine will absorb Mutual Ministries.
- The Haitian Gift amounted to \$475, which was sent to The Rev. Kesner Ajax to support a student's total expenses for a year at the Bishop Tharpe Institute in Les Cayes, Haiti.

SMART Goals – Linda Jackson

- Tree Sales Team – Dan Morgado
Response to the request for help to sell trees in December has been weak. Dan will be making personal phone calls to solicit individuals to make a commitment to cover a few hours during the season. Young and strong people are needed to handle the heavy trees.
- Priest in Charge Team – Catherine Foster
The Vestry voted to allow the PIC Team to develop the profile for the PIC search. The team is working with Canon Simpson to look at any/all available candidates and examining different employment models for the position.

Treasurer Report: Jeff Kalb

- Treasurer's Report indicates that Trinity is in good shape six months into the year.

Facilities Report: Ron Alarie

- The fence by the rectory has been repaired and the area has been sprayed for poison ivy.
- The contractor will begin painting in late summer. Meanwhile our facilities guys are making minor repairs and painting trim... and always looking for additional help with the maintenance and grounds.

Mutual Ministry: Catherine

- Summer Offerings: Mutual services, Dean Park: July 22 and August 26
- Trinity will participate in the Spirit of Shrewsbury (with Wellspring and Mt. Olivet) on September 29 only. The Trinity Light Pole Banner will be flying in town with other Shrewsbury businesses, etc.

Old Business

- Sherry Alarie has offered to step in as the point person for the Pastoral Care Team

New Business: Catherine

- Bishop Fisher plans a visit to Trinity on September 30th.
- Presiding Bishop Michael Curry plans to visit the Diocese in October. The date and venue will be announced at some point.
- Jeff Kalb is still upgrading the Trinity computer software and hardware. He and Sue Barnard are working together to ensure we have the most efficient systems at the best value.
- Next Vestry Meeting – August 16th at 7:00pm. Any parishioner is welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Jackson, Vestry Clerk

News & Notes from the Senior Warden

Junior Warden -

Carolann Tebbetts has submitted her resignation as Junior Warden and her other several committee positions in the parish. In her resignation letter, she cited the time constraints of balancing her new job as art director of a large high school with family responsibilities, and realized that she was not able to give the time she would like to Trinity.

In her many years on the Vestry, as Vestry Member and Junior Warden, Carolann has been a supportive voice in helping us grow beyond our walls through Mutual Ministries and in efforts to highlight Trinity's presence in the community of Shrewsbury. She has in the past served the parish as Church School Director, and has

been actively involved with Tree Sales, ushering, Hospitality Team, Thrift Sales, art programs, rectory painting, IHN, narthex decorations, Spirit of Shrewsbury and countless other activities, while balancing family obligations, career in art education, earning her Master of Fine Arts degree and a health scare a couple of years ago.

Please join me in thanking Carolann for her service to our parish in every capacity, and wishing her well as she takes this step to devote the time she needs to her career, art, family, health and spirituality.

Linda Jackson, our Parish Clerk, will take over some of the Junior Warden duties until the end of the term in January 2019, with the exceptions of Facilities liaison which will continue to be handled by Ron Alarie, and the Tree Sale SMART Goal Team which will be led by Dan Morgado. We are actively looking for a parish member to continue the Mutual Ministries Team representation which Carolann initiated.

Pastoral Care Team –

Our lay led Pastoral Care team members visit our shut-in parishioners and serves as Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Jen Morin has until recently led the team. She will remain a member of the team, but is stepping down as the leader. We truly appreciate the time she has given to this important parish ministry, and thank her for keeping the team in touch with the spiritual needs of our shut in and ill parishioners.

Sherry Alarie will be taking over as leader of the Pastoral Care Team. We know she will use her gifts of warmth and faith in this ministry. Please contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know would like a visit from our Pastoral Care Team.

Help Wanted - many ways to get involved at Trinity:

--- Mutual Ministries Team – serve on team to plan worship and fellowship with Mt. Olivet and Wellspring. Current project is working on shared activity with Mt. Olivet at the Spirit of Shrewsbury town Expo on September 29.

--- Christmas Tree Sales Team Leads – Be in charge of scheduling volunteers for a block of sales times.

--- Christmas Tree Salespeople – Friendly people needed to sell trees in December! It's so much fun to help a family pick out the tree that's 'just right.'

---- Webmaster/Social Media Guru – Update Trinity's Social Media presence on Facebook, Twitter and Website. Publicize our activities and help build our community.

--- Hospitality Teams – Serve one Sunday a month as Greeters, Ushers and Coffee Hour Hosts. (including setup and cleanup) – You're welcome to join any team – it's a great way to make friends and be a friendly presence for everyone who comes to Trinity!

--- Facilities Team – Responsible for grounds keeping and snow removal. Seasonal tasks include mowing the lawn, weeding, pruning, and clearing walkways (we have a plow service for the parking lot)

Contact ***Catherine Foster*** or any Vestry member for more information and to volunteer!

REVIVAL!!

Boston, early fifties-

I joined my youth group in trekking into Boston's Park Street Church to attend a revival featuring the Reverend Billy Graham. I was almost a teen, barely understood all that was preached. But I did go forward and I did "give my heart to Jesus."

In the years that have passed "revival" has not passed my thoughts. Nor has "revival" even presented itself. I'm a confirmed Episcopalian!

Now is my chance to become part of a revival, - in my church, among people I have grown to love. And it's your chance too.

As published, Bishop Michael Curry recently challenged every Episcopalian to embrace the "Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-centered life" as a way to help the church enter into a new era of spiritual growth.

Please join me and those you have grown to love. - Mark your calendar the weekend of October 20-21, 2018.

More to follow - and with much anticipation

Judy Gramstorff



TRINITY WOMEN IN MAINE

Yes! It's time to plan for 2018 – a special 20th anniversary year for TWIM. This year, TWIM will be held from Friday, November 9 to Sunday, November 11 and as in previous years, the location will be the Anchorage By the Sea in Ogunquit.

Audrey Dalli (daisyewe@aol.com) (774-570-0162) will be handling reservations and payments are due by **August 15** to secure the rooms. \$200 per person double occupancy covers two night's room rate, 7% Maine tax, housekeeping fees, Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast, snacks, beverages, and TWIM gift bags. Single occupancy is \$371.

Back to School with St. Anne's

Once again, St. Anne's is asking our help in donating gift cards to purchase back-to-school supplies for Shrewsbury students who are being assisted by Shrewsbury Human Services.

Gift cards to Wal-Mart, Target, CVS, Walgreens, Staples - or a store of your choosing are welcome. Gift cards can be returned to the parish office or at the display in the narthex - by August 20 - so the back to school shopping can begin!

Checks payable to St. Anne's Human Services are also welcome.

Thank you for sharing.



FLOWERS FOR THE TRINITY ALTAR

Your donation of flowers for the Trinity altar help beautify our worship! Still only \$35 for a Sunday, dates available as of this writing through 2018 are: August 12, September 2, September 9, October 1, October 14, and October 28.

Please sign up in the narthex or contact the parish office.

THIS MONTH – HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO And HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Judith Gramstorff	8/1	Dan & Luanne Morgado	8/4/1979
Anthony Dalli	8/1	Philip & Deborah Mudway	9/8/1984
Philip Kasputis	8/1	Chris & Francine Estrop	8/17/1992
Gavin McRae	8/7	Ron & Donna Crocker	8/19/1967
Kyle Prior	8/10	Chris & Jen Morin	8/22/1992
Clara Boutte	8/13	Frank & Judy Pugliese	8/30/1975
Marianne Tompkins	8/19	John & Joanne Tyndall	8/30/1987
David Thompson	8/20		
Judy Pugliese	8/21		
Nancy Goodwin	8/24		
Gary Tebbetts	8/25		
Beth Murray	8/27		
Susan Harris	8/29		
Shane Gorrie	8/30		



Please inform the parish office if any birthday or anniversary information needs correction – or if your special dates need to be added!

WARDEN'S REPORT

I hope you're enjoying this lovely summer! I also hope you're having a chance to welcome new people and new experiences in your life. It can really enrich our lives to seize as much as God offers.

Trinity was asked to 'welcome the stranger' this month when we were approached to host memorial services for two non-parishioners. The first was for a member of the large Indian community in Shrewsbury. The family has held celebrations in our halls and a funeral for another family member a few years ago, so requested through Chiampa Funeral Home that this service be held in our Sanctuary, which has become a home to them. Much of the family was gathered when I arrived to open the doors. The women were wearing white Saris. I was struck by how beautiful they looked as they came to mourn their matriarch.

The second memorial was for a woman who grew up in Shrewsbury, was a former warden in her Episcopal parish (instant sisterhood!) and in her Diocese in upstate New York. She desired to be interred with her parents in the Mountain View Cemetery. With Fr Ron on vacation, we arranged to have Fr. John Edgar Freeman officiate at the Memorial Service. The family and friends were quite pleased with the Service. I found myself at one point the back seat of a car in full LEM garb with a bowl of Holy Water in my lap navigating Fr. Freeman and his wife to the Cemetery, which was both a very moving experience when I thought about the enormity of what I was doing, and also slightly comical in the moment. It was what my good Catholic mother later reminded me was a 'Corporal Act of Mercy' (and it's not the first time she's shrugged off something I've pulled off as a 'Corporal Act of Mercy') – in this case helping to bury the dead with the hope of Eternal Life. But I considered both memorial services as acts of radical welcome to the stranger too.

I hope you have had interesting new experiences this month, and opened yourself up to welcome a stranger or be welcomed yourself. That's a part of how we live our Christian lives. Be open to the new people and experiences God gives to you in the coming month, in all that you experience in the lovely remaining days of this summer!

Pax –

Catherine Foster, Senior Warden

[General Convention – continued from page 1]

\$134 million budget adopted: Convention adopted a \$133.8 million 2019-2021 [budget](#) that reflects the presiding bishop's priorities of [evangelism](#), racial reconciliation and [justice](#), and [creation care](#). The priorities have been referred to as the “three pillars” of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.

It also continues to be built on what Maine Bishop Stephen Lane, vice chair of the Joint Committee on Program, Budget and Finance, told the joint session is “the foundation of our continuing ministries as a church and our commitments to others both within and beyond our church.” In addition, it includes the foundation of the church's “ongoing commitment to conciliar governance, and the legal, financial and other services of the Church Center [the denominational offices in New York].”

Full access to trial-use marriage rites: Convention agreed in passing [Resolution B012](#) on July 13 to give all Episcopalians the ability to be married by their priests in their home churches.

Resolution B012 provides for:

Giving rectors or clergy in charge of a congregation the ability to provide access to the trial use of the marriage rites for same-sex and opposite-sex couples.

Requiring that, if a bishop “holds a theological position that does not embrace marriage for same-sex couples,” he or she may invite another bishop, if necessary, to provide “pastoral support” to any couple desiring to use the rites, as well as to the clergy member and congregation involved. In any case, an outside bishop must be asked to take requests for remarriage if either member of the couple is divorced to fulfill a canonical requirement that applies to opposite-sex couples.

Continuing trial use of the rites until the completion of the next comprehensive revision of the Book of Common Prayer.

New plan for liturgical and prayer book revision: Convention adopted a plan for liturgical and prayer book revision that sets the stage for the creation of new liturgical texts to respond to the needs of Episcopalians across the church while continuing to use the 1979 Book of Common Prayer.

[Resolution A068](#) originally called for the start of a process that would lead to a fully revised prayer book in 2030. The bishops instead adopted a plan for “liturgical and prayer book revision for the future of God's mission through the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.” It calls for bishops to engage worshipping communities in their dioceses in experimentation and creation of alternative liturgical texts that they will submit to a new Task Force on Liturgical and Prayer Book Revision to be appointed by the presiding bishop and the president of the House of Deputies.

It also says that liturgical revision will utilize inclusive and expansive language and imagery for humanity and divinity, and will incorporate understanding, appreciation and care of God's creation.

Meanwhile, General Convention also adopted a resolution that allows all congregations in the Episcopal Church to use optional, expansive-language versions of three Rite II Eucharistic prayers (Prayers A, B, and D) in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer.

Responding to the voices and stories of women: The voices and stories of women played a significant role in the workings of the 79th General Convention, from a [liturgy](#) where bishops offered laments and confession for the church's role in sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse to [Resolution D087](#) that allows deputies to bring infant children on the floor of the House of Deputies to feed them.

Acting on immigration: In the midst of the national uproar over the Trump’s administration of “zero tolerance,” Convention passed three resolutions on immigration issues.

[Resolution C033](#) puts the church on record as respecting the dignity of immigrants and outlines how public policy should reflect that belief; [A178](#) takes a forceful stand against family separations and treatment of immigrant parents and children; and [C009](#), titled “Becoming a Sanctuary Church,” encourages Episcopalians and congregations to reach out to and support immigrants facing deportation, including by providing physical sanctuary if they choose.

One of the defining moments of this General Convention was the prayer vigil held July 8 [outside](#) the T. Don Hutto Residential Center, an immigrant detention facility little more than a half-hour outside of Austin. A massive gathering of more than a thousand Episcopalians prayed and sang in support of immigrant parents and children who had been separated.

Challenging injustices in Israeli-Palestinian conflict: General Convention wrapped up its consideration of resolutions relating to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with mixed results due largely to the House of Bishops’ unwillingness to take many of the bolder steps urged by the House of Deputies.

Of the 15 resolutions submitted on Israel-Palestine going into General Convention, only six passed both houses, though the successful resolutions still touch on the plight of Palestinian children, the status of Jerusalem, the disproportionate use of lethal force on both sides and ways the Episcopal Church can press for peace through its investment decisions.

Welcome back, Cuba: Convention voted to admit, or readmit, the Episcopal Church of Cuba as a diocese by passing [Resolution A238](#). The Diocese of Cuba is set to join Province II, which includes dioceses from New York and New Jersey in the United States, Haiti and the Virgin Islands.

Compensation for deputies’ president: Convention agreed to a plan to pay the president of the House of Deputies for the work of the office.

[Resolution B014](#) passed with no dollar figure attached but agreed to pay the House of Deputies president director’s and officer’s fees “for specific services rendered in order to fulfill duties required by the church’s Constitution and Canons.”

FALL THRIFT SALE TIME

Details will be announced soon – but it’s never too soon to be thinking about the next Trinity Thrift Sale. Fall cleaning seems to be underway early this year as numerous items have already been donated and are in the downstairs classroom at the end of the hall – awaiting sale day.

Trinity thrift sales are a wonderful boost to Trinity and also a much-anticipated opportunity for members of the community to purchase quality items at a thrifty price. Stay tuned!!



AUGUST SERVING SCHEDULES

DATE	Lector(s)	EM	Hospitality	Altar Guild
August 5	Diane Caron Hal Marshall	Ron Alarie	Team 1	Anne Morse Sherry Alarie
August 12	Elaine Brouillette Dina Nichols	Catherine Foster	Team 2	Nancy Goodwin
August 19	Hal Marshall Judy PUGliese	Jen Morin	Team 3	Linda Jackson Paula Green
August 26 Dean Park Service	To be Announced			

** Schedules updated as of July 28, 2018*

Note: Schedules are distributed quarterly, in advance of serving dates; these schedules also appear (without contact information) on the Trinity website – www.trinityshrewsbury.org. Schedules month to month, (see above) appear in the monthly newsletter. Reminders/updates are sent by e-mail a couple of days prior to every Sunday as part of the weekly Trinity E-Update. And if you ever have a question about when you are scheduled to serve, you can always contact the parish office.

Trinity Matters –the monthly newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church
 440 Main Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545
 508-842-6040 Phone/508-842-6730 FAX
Worship with us on Sundays – Coffee Hour & Fellowship beginning at 9:15 am
Call to Worship & Organ Prelude, 9:50 am – Holy Eucharist 10 am
Summer Parish Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm