



# Trinity Topics

## From the Rector's Desk . . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

Dear Friends,

What a glorious Resurrection Sunday celebration we had! Welcome Easter season and with it, our reminder to always be on the lookout for little resurrection events in our daily lives.

This April I share from the book *Love Heals*, written by Becca Stevens, the founder of Thistle Farms. This excerpt is entitled, "The Apostles on Healing":

After the death and resurrection of Jesus, a community gathered together in wonder, but they were still struggling to understand what had just happened among them. They had experienced miracles of healing: the lame could walk, the deaf could hear, the blind could see. In the book of Acts, beginning in the third chapter, Peter and John spoke about the deep desire to understand how love had overcome death in the resurrection. After all, these were the people who had shouted, "Hosanna in the highest" when Jesus entered Jerusalem, only to cry out for His crucifixion just days later. They were at a loss, looking to the apostles for an explanation for these mysteries and certainly for help with the pain of confusion they must have felt. Because Peter and John had been witnesses to great love and had been loved greatly, they had compassion for the community that wanted to heal.

In Acts, they spoke to the community in detail, to give them advice on how they should carry on in the face of their brokenness:

1. *Repent of your sins.* Peter invited the crowd to begin their journey of understanding. "Repent, then, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out" (Acts 3:19). Part of our pain comes from our own thoughts,

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2. words, and deeds. We repent of things we have done and left undone so that we can love again with our whole hearts. When we experience the freedom rooted in forgiveness, we don't have to block out those places too painful to think about or numb ourselves from the shame of our past.
3. *Remain in fellowship.* Peter knew that for the community to grow, they needed to seek out fellowships of faith where they could grow. Acts 2:46-47 shows us this principle in action: "Continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart." We can't expand and strengthen our hearts if we stay comfortable where we are. We need to learn a new way to see and act. Communities of faith teach us new ideas about how to live more fully.
4. *Live in generosity.* We give generously because of all the mercy and grace we have been shown. A grateful heart is a healing heart. Acts 4:32 tells us, "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had."
5. *Heal one another.* My healing is bound to your healing. I pray for you; you pray for me. The early Christians were concerned that the needs of widows and the sick were cared for, so they selected from amongst themselves "seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to the task" (Acts 6:3). The Acts of the Apostles is filled with stories of healing through the work of the community. Healing love is meant to be shared with one another. Even though we can't fathom the reality of divine love required, our desire to help others find healing keeps us close to God.

With these four steps in mind, everyone can begin to expand and strengthen their hearts. Peter and John's advice offers us a way to heal through God's Spirit within us—and the desire we have been given to love deeply.

### **Monday Brown Bag Bible Study**

We now meet on Mondays in the Parish Hall from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. The Bible Study includes videos, discussion and handouts. Bring yourself and your favorite Bible. You may bring a lunch and beverage with you. You may also want to bring a notebook and pen to take notes. We are doing a survey of the books of the New Testament through April, and then go deeper into a New Testament book of the group's choosing.

## Healing Service via Zoom Thursdays at Noon

We continue to offer a Healing Service via Zoom on Thursdays at Noon. The Zoom link is emailed via our Constant Contact email service on Wednesdays along with a copy of the order of service for the week. The order of service is also shared on the screen during the service itself. We commemorate a "saint" from the Episcopal Church utilizing the resource 'A Great Cloud of Witnesses' and share a little healing music from a variety of sources.

## Brandywine Deanery "Virtual" Plenary Meeting

The **Brandywine Deanery** is a geographical grouping of congregations in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania joined together for the purposes of regional ministry, mutual cooperation and support, diocesan relations, and the development of leadership for the Diocese. The Deanery consists of 15 churches and one Episcopal school (Church Farm School), most of which are located in Chester County. On **Thursday, April 18th, from 7pm to 8pm**, the Brandywine Deanery will gather for its first "Virtual" Plenary. Hosted by our Dean, the Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria (St. Francis-in-the-Fields, Malvern), with support from other Clergy and Lay Leaders, the purpose of this meeting is to begin a conversation toward greater ministry and cooperation between our congregations, with particular emphasis on the importance of Lay leadership and ministry at all levels. All members of the Brandywine Deanery (not just Deanery Representatives) are invited to attend. To register for this event and learn how God may be speaking to you, please email our Dean at [frkevin@stfancisfields.org](mailto:frkevin@stfancisfields.org). As the date of the meeting gets closer, you will be sent a **Zoom link** for the meeting.

## Vestry Meeting Sunday, April 21 at 11 a.m.

The regular monthly Vestry meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 21 at 11 a.m. (after grabbing some coffee hour goodies) in the social hall. Congrats to our newly elected and re-elected Vestry members, Joe Kirkner, Betty Sullivan, Violet Cole and Kent Nation. Our Diocesan/Deanery Delegates are: Pat Kirkner, Chris Haak, Betty Sullivan and Deborah Murray.

Many thanks to all of you who give to Trinity so faithfully of your time, talent and treasure. Pledges are an intention to give, but are in no way binding. That being said, giving in the first quarter of 2024 has been a bit under budget. If you are in a position to stay current with your pledge, I would be most grateful.

Minnie Kirwin, Treasurer

## **Outreach Coordinator**

### **Community Happenings:**

**April 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> 6-7:30** You are invited to participate in a virtual community conversation around mental health in the Black community. NAMI Sharing Hope is a 3-part video series to inspire conversations around important issues. Join by using this link:

<https://v.ringcentral.com/join/577807182>. If you have questions, please email

[info@namichescopa.org](mailto:info@namichescopa.org) or contact me Liz Hulse 610-506-4140 [liztrinity323@gmail.com](mailto:liztrinity323@gmail.com)

**April 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00a.m.-1 pm** Accessing community-based mental health services

*I am struck this month that many of the efforts to help others in our community are through resources administered electronically. Electronics offer great tools to increase our access to communication. However, when I need help, especially if I'm in distress, I want a person whose offering support as I find resources within myself or in my community to move forward.... I want a person, dare I say, "God with skin on." My experience is that isolation can be devastating. So I am reaching out to you, asking you to be in prayer with me that we be shown, as the community of Trinity, the community of faith, the community of Coatesville how we can allow the Holy Spirit to work through us to care for those around us.*

I'm excited to share with you some of the innovative programs being developed in our midst.

**You can help by spreading the word:**

Through a professor at West Chester University I learned about a program called "Learning Life Skills Together." It grew out of his receiving a plea from PA Senator Carolyn Comitta to address the mental health needs of teens and children. It is designed for parents and care-ers. Although you may not be parenting young people, you can let the parents in your sphere of influence know about it. (My life skills can always use sprucing up too, as situations in my life are ever changing!) I've asked him if he would come to Coatesville to do a live event to introduce this resource to our community. To learn more about this **free** resource, go to [www.lifeskillspa.org](http://www.lifeskillspa.org)

Remember if you have any questions, suggestions, needs, or know someone who does, feel free to contact me, Liz Hulse, at 610-506-4140 or [liztrinity323@gmail.com](mailto:liztrinity323@gmail.com).



<b>Nina Thompson</b>	<b>1-Apr</b>
<b>Evelyn Carey</b>	<b>2-Apr</b>
<b>Lily Fazio</b>	<b>2-Apr</b>
<b>Gail Craven</b>	<b>4-Apr</b>
<b>Sherry Deets</b>	<b>7-Apr</b>
<b>Diane Evans</b>	<b>7-Apr</b>
<b>Stacey Heston</b>	<b>10-Apr</b>
<b>Alfred Carey Jr</b>	<b>11-Apr</b>
<b>Robert Baynard Jr</b>	<b>14-Apr</b>
<b>Jodi Bakshas</b>	<b>15-Apr</b>
<b>Barbara Combs</b>	<b>21-Apr</b>
<b>Joshua Grubb</b>	<b>28-Apr</b>

<b>Meg &amp; Dev Devereux</b>	<b>12-Apr</b>
<b>Robert &amp; Sarina Baynard</b>	<b>13-Apr</b>
<b>Victor III &amp; Jacqueline Shanley</b>	<b>24-Apr</b>

# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon		SH Rented
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
SH Rented	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon	Mary Shidlowksi <u>Funeral:</u> 10am Visiting 11am service Repast in Hall	SH Rented
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon		SH Rented
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
SH Rented	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM		Healing Service 12noon	Pro Act Bingo Night	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				
	Bible Study 1130AM	AA 7PM				

## Readers, Servers and Greeters for April 2024

Date	Readers	Psalm	Prayers
4/7	Minnie Kirwin	Seth Haak	Betty Sullivan
4/14	Chris Haak	Greg Bentley	Vic Shanley
4/21	Deborah Murray	Erika Haak	Bill Terry
4/28	James Gaddy	Kent Nation	Pat Bush

**CHURCH OF THE TRINITY**

**323 East Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, PA 19320-3409**

**For more information**

**contact:**

**The Reverend Sherry Deets, Rector**

**610-384-4771**

**trinitycoates@aol.com**

**Website:**

**www.trinitycoatesville.org**

**Mission Statement**

**Church of the Trinity is a congregation rooted in the faith and love of Christ, unified in diversity, seeking to grow and nourish the Trinity family and our Coatesville community.**

**Service Schedule**

**Holy Eucharist**

**Sundays 9:30 AM**

**Thursdays 12:00 PM**

**Jamoca Harkins,  
Parish Administrator**

**Parish Office Hours:**

**Mondays & Wednesdays: 1-3 PM**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4-7 PM**

**THE EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH OF THE TRINITY  
323 East Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, Pennsylvania  
19320-3409**

**Church School**

**Sundays: 9:15 AM**