

Trinity Tidings

From the Anti-Racism Group

It has been nearly a year since the death of George Floyd, but it feels like yesterday. Perhaps because the very public trial of his executioner is happening across all aspects of the media. In the wake of his death, so many things have changed. The Black Lives Matter movement mobilized in new and different ways, conversations about racism and representation have become more prominent, and churches began to engage racism; both the racism of others and the racism that has always been present within institutional Christianity.



For many in the parish, the death of George Floyd was a catalyst for deep introspection around issues of racism, white supremacy, and oppression. We began an Anti-Racism Group here at Trinity on the Hill. It began not at first as a means of identifying external forces of racism we could rally around and take pleasure in confronting, but with those of us present in this group tackling our own internal

racism and implicit biases. We worked on racial histories, interrogating the ways in which our understanding of race, ethnicity, and culture were formed by flawed and ultimately harmful ideologies. Some in the group had already begun this kind of work. For others, this was the first time they had ever confronted racism on a sustained level. All of us, however, have spent the better part of the last year growing in our ability to confront the racism within and to identify and name the racism still present in the Church and the world.

We believe the work we are engaged in is too important to relegate to a twice monthly small group. We believe firmly that the mission of Jesus Christ, rooted in the reconciliation of humanity and divinity, calls us to confront head-on the forces of racism, oppression, white privilege, and the insidious disease known as white supremacy. Again, we must stress our work began with confronting these forces within ourselves, and it continues in this vein as we realize the work of becoming anti-racist is a life-long project. So, along with confronting those outside forces, we commit ourselves to sustained reflection on how those forces are operating upon us.

Following our convictions that this work should be more widespread, we are inviting the entire parish to engage in this work alongside us. We are aware, however, that many in the parish will have never engaged in anti-racism work, either internally or externally. So, we have created a series of events to function as our Christian Formation hour, as well as other types of work to broad-

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Temporary Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

8 am: Rite II In-person Eucharist

(reservation required)

10:30 am Rite II On-line Choral Eucharist

Wednesday

12 noon: On-line Healing Service

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal
can be found at:

3900 Trinity Drive,

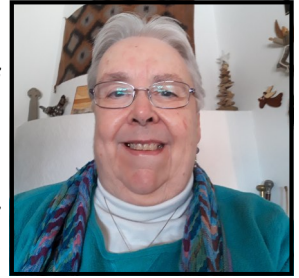
Los Alamos NM 87544

www.latoth.org

505-662-5107

THOUGHTS FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Happy Easter to everyone! It was wonderful to see so many of you in person at various services during Holy Week. As for many of you, for me it was a time of trying to wrap my head around the news of all the upcoming staff changes at TOTH. Consequently, I felt an even greater need than usual to be part of each service from Palm Sunday through Easter morning. Thanks be to God for our Altar Guild members who must have been sleeping at the church to accomplish the myriad changes required for that number of unique services! However, whether I was in the sanctuary or joining my TOTH family online, I found all the services especially moving, but none more so than the Good Friday Liturgy.



My Good Friday activities started about a week earlier when I was preparing to record the lessons for the online service. This gave me time to consider these readings in relation to the Good Friday gospel, paying special attention to the emotions being expressed. Then on Good Friday I began my day with Morning Prayer, followed by reading and praying with the *Stations of the Cross During COVID19 Pandemic* – thanks to Lynn Finnegan! In the early afternoon I savored the “rock opera” of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, remembering the first time I had seen it as a young college student in the 1970s and reflecting on the Vietnam War-era world that influenced those film makers. I admit to being just as moved by the unforgettable music and cinematography as I was almost 50 years ago!

With that eclectic mix of images, scripture, and personal memories, I prepared to attend the online Good Friday service. I knew that it would be powerful because of the very nature of the events being recalled, but the reality far exceeded my expectations. I am convinced the Lord orchestrated the fact that Mother Laurie not only read John 18 and 19 but was then called to preach on that passage as well. Some might say the combination of the gospel and her sermon was too long but, friends, I was so totally caught up in the telling of those fateful events and Mother Laurie’s reflections through the eyes of the major players, that I was unaware of the time passing. Her sermon put me right there in those dusty streets of Jerusalem, swept up in Pilate’s confusion, frustration, and fear, in Mary’s soul deep sadness, and in Jesus’ unbelievable acceptance and unimaginable agony. These were no longer just characters in an age-old story, but real, living, breathing, bleeding people. I could not imagine a more fitting end to this uniquely heart-wrenching day. I’ve already shared my thoughts with Mother Laurie, but for those of you who missed that service, I commend the recorded video to you, even now as we are celebrating Christ’s resurrection and our journey towards Pentecost.

My journey now however, as well as that of your Vestry, is centered on finding a Parish Bookkeeper, a Parish Administrator, and an Interim Rector. I am comforted by the many wonderful sisters and brothers who are on this journey with me. So, as our parish comes to terms with the upcoming transitions, please help the Vestry to express our gratitude to Fr. Christopher Adams, Cynthia Biddlecomb, and Valerie Fassbender. We can never hope to replicate the love and dedication these three have given to Trinity on the Hill over the years, but please join the Vestry in praying for the willingness and grace to discern the Lord’s leading as we search for their successors. Rest assured that these searches have begun and that I will keep you apprised of each milestone. So, as always, do not hesitate to contact me or any other Vestry member to ask questions or share your concerns.

Alleluia! He is Risen!

Yours in Christ,

Margaret Odell, Senior Warden

FROM THE CO-JUNIOR WARDENS



Greetings from your co-Junior Wardens! Needless to say, this has been a most busy and overwhelming month! While we are mourning the loss of our fantastic team that has been our Gorilla Glue these many, many years, we also give thanks for all that we have in each other and our strong faith in God's strong and loving hand in our amazing future that He has in store.

Meanwhile, we have been busy! We met with Mark, our former Junior Warden, for a TOTH tour and learned quite a lot about on-going projects and, even better, the work that he is willing to continue to do for TOTH.

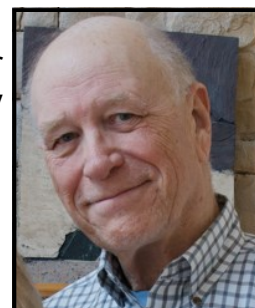
You may have noticed a slight rearrangement of the pews at the entrance to the sanctuary to accommodate better handicap access, thanks to a huge effort from Rick Rothrock. We are also researching automatic door openers for the bathrooms outside Kelly Hall to improve handicapped access there.

Paul headed up a priority issue to level the floor to reduce the tripping hazard due to a large shift in the foundation of Kelly Hall. He worked alongside the contractor to ensure its success, and is waiting for a carpet company to stretch the carpet and cover the seam over the repairs.

Thanks to Brad Wright, who removed snow blocking the downspouts, we may have found the roof issue that sometimes causes a leak in the men's restroom. Hopefully, this month we will have that repaired.

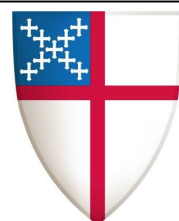
Stay tuned for more new developments to follow! We pray that your Holy Week was indeed holy and filled with the richness of God's Holy Spirit and love.

Lisa Rothrock and Paul Lisowski



For the record: March 2021

Transferred to TOTH: Charles Anderson "Andy" Light and Linda Light of White Rock, from St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Cincinnati, Ohio.



UNITED THANK OFFERING - 2021

After no activity in 2020, UTO is returning to TOTH this year! Actually, the good news is that 18 dioceses in the Episcopal Church actually increased their offerings between 2019 and 2020. Unfortunately, the offering from our Diocese of the Rio Grande decreased by 91%. Apparently, many parishes, like TOTH, were affected by the pandemic, neither holding an ingathering nor having much opportunity for promotion or encouragement of congregations to remember to express their thanksgivings by putting coins into their little blue boxes.

Yet, we have all had a lot of thankfulness in our hearts for all the many people who have stepped up their services to us (front-line workers, medical personnel, educators, our clergy, postal workers, delivery drivers, and many, many more), often at risk to their own health and to their families.

The Diocese is planning an in-person Annual Convention in October at St. Bede's in Santa Fe. So, hopefully, there will be a Convention Eucharist at which all our congregations can present their UTO offerings for the year. TOTH has actually had a couple offerings so far this year, and my prayer is that we will build on that.

Our Diocesan UTO Coordinator, Cindy Davis, writes, "First and foremost, UTO is about Gratitude. It is about a Rule of Life that includes Gratitude. We can give thanks, even when we cannot give money. At the same time, donations to UTO are important. The Little Blue Box has been the symbol of the offering for well over 130 years. Our individual pennies, nickels and dimes all add up to a larger sum that can be used to do good via Grants."

I encourage each of you at TOTH to pick up a blue UTO box the next time you are near the church. They are located just inside the door near the chapel and also in the narthex. Then reflect daily on blessings you are thankful for and, if possible, drop in your loose change. We'll plan an ingathering (either virtually or in person) sometime this fall. And expect some more reminders!

I often think of this song, which many of you may know:

"Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son."

God bless you all and please don't hesitate to contact me if you want to know more about UTO or have questions. You can also visit the website: unitedthankoffering.com

Cathy Walters
UTO Coordinator, TOTH
690-2309 or cathwalter@aol.com

ALTAR GUILD DURING HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

The Altar Guild was very busy the last week of March and the first week of April, getting ready for the Holy Week services and the Altar of repose. Lots of Altar Guild members enjoyed working together to make good things happen. They were delighted to have the Altar of Repose again and were so excited to have some live services for Holy Week, culminating in two spectacular Easter services. Here are a few photos showing some of the Altar Guild's work. The Altar Guild would love to have some more members. If you are interested, please contact the Church office or one of the three Altar Guild co-chairs: Ellie Giovanielli, Marilyn Lisowski or Rozelle Wright. (All photos: Rozelle Wright)



Renee and Leon setting up palms



Easter Day altar



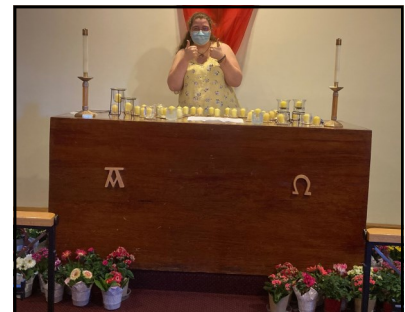
Palms in the Baptistry



Altar decorated for Palm Sunday



Palms made by the Stephens family



Isabella helped set up the Altar of Repose

From the Editor:

Dear friends,

Hallelujah! Christ is Risen! Although I wasn't able to shout that in person with you on Easter Day, I was participating from a hotel room at Heathrow Airport, where I was unexpectedly delayed on my journey back to the US. I also found some new friends at an Anglican church in Northumberland, with whom I worshipped via Zoom on two of the Sundays in Lent. Wherever we are, we can find ways to worship and share Christian fellowship. Hallelujah!

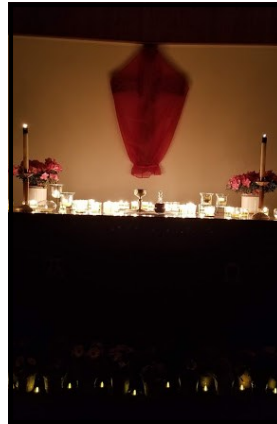
Happy spring!

Best wishes,

Claire

In case you missed it...

The Altar of Repose in St. Athanasius Chapel
(photos: Lynn Finnegan)

**Trinity Tidings**

A newsletter of Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

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Calendars and schedules: Cynthia Biddlecomb and
Claire Singleton

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Trinity on the Hill's Mission

*The Mission of Trinity on the Hill is to share the power and joy of
God's love, to fully embrace all God's children,
and to respond to the needs of our community
and the world in the spirit of Jesus Christ*

**The next regularly scheduled issue will be
in May. Submission deadline Friday, May
7.**

Submit electronically to: cmws4377@gmail.com or
cynthiab@latoth.org

en our awareness and take seriously the call of Christ to become a more inclusive, anti-racist parish.

To accomplish this, **we will offer an Introductory Module on Sunday, May 2.** This will serve as the entry point for those who are coming to this work without much prior engagement. It will clarify terms, look at the naked facts of history, and review data that paint the picture of a world still marred by the forces of oppression, including and especially white supremacy. Here is a quick summary of what will happen after that May 2 Module:

Panel discussions with members of the current anti-racism group that will offer a less technical, more personal way of narrating why we believe this work is so important, and why we have given ourselves to it over the last year;

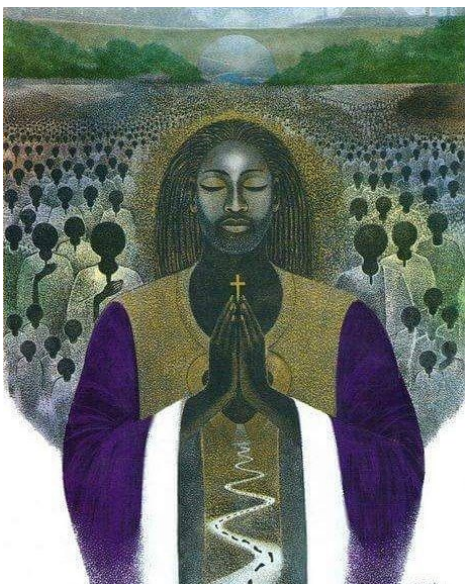
A book study will then commence, **reading *How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi.** This book has been important to many in our group, and it provides another opportunity to learn more about the theory and practice behind becoming anti-racist in more than just superficial ways;

We will then turn to **taking seriously the racism against our Pueblo siblings, hoping to expand and strengthen our relationship with the Pueblo of San Ildefonso** as we learn more about the history of oppression against them. This doesn't capture the depth of what we will be engaging, but gives an overview of how we believe this work will unfold in our parish context.

This work will be uncomfortable. It will require you to confront and shed light on what lurks in your heart. We will take seriously the contexts in which we were raised and reckon with how easy it is to say, "I'm not a racist," yet actively engage in racist behavior. It will confront the terrorizing specter of white supremacy still at play in our nation, state, and especially within the Church, both the entire institution and within our parish. Saying all this, however, we also want to say how important this work has been for us. We have grown in ways we didn't know possible, while also illuminating ways we still must grow. We challenge you to embrace this work as a matter of discipleship, serving the Lord Jesus Christ who stands firmly and unequivocally on the side of the outcast and the oppressed. Will you join us in this work?

-In Christ,

Christopher Adams, Alison and Jordan Bailey, Lynn Finnegan, Maggie and Leni Moore, Lee Moquino, Margaret Odell, and Renee Roybal on behalf of the Anti-Racism Group



Alleluia!
Christ is Risen!

To all brothers and sisters in Christ of the Diocese of the Rio Grande, lay and ordained, you are invited to participate in one or both of two exciting opportunities to gather together from across the diocese via Zoom.

One Book One Diocese

Everyone in the Diocese of the Rio Grande (men & women) is invited to participate in a six-month study of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's latest book *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*. Participants will read two chapters per month and then gather for discussion via Zoom. Feel free to invite friends.

The series will begin April 22 to September 23. **We'll meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30PM via Zoom to share our impressions and inspirations.**

The book is available on [Amazon](#), or in the Albuquerque area you can get it by emailing Martha Ernest at the [Cathedral Gift Shop](#). Even if you have read the book and/or been in a parish group discussion about it, consider joining this diocesan study as your insights will enrich us all.

Sponsored by the Women's Ministry of the Diocese and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

Register <https://tinyurl.com/hpbcnfsa>, or email **Cindy Davis** (CynthiaDavisAuthor@gmail.com).

Schedule

April 22

Chapter 1: What is This Thing Called Love
Chapter 2: Looking for God

May 27

Chapter 3: Making Do and Making New
Chapter 4: What Desmond Tutu and Dolly Parton Have in Common

June 24

Chapter 5: Love's Call—and Love's Calling
Chapter 6: It's Not Easy

July 22

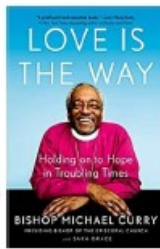
Chapter 7: Leave No One Behind
Chapter 8: When the Spirit Rewards You

August 26

Chapter 9: The Real E Pluribus Unum
Chapter 10: The Great Relationship Revival

September 23

Chapter 11: The Still More Excellent Way
Chapter 12: Hope, Help, and Healing




Women's Ministry and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew are sponsoring a 6-month study of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's book, *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*. We'll read 2 chapters/month and meet on the 4th Thursday at 6:30 PM (MT) via Zoom to discuss thoughts and insights. (Series starts April 22). (See flyer, left.)

On May 1 at 2 PM everyone is invited to join the Rev. Heather Melton (UTO Staff officer for the National Church) for a presentation about how the gratitude practices and resources of UTO can enrich parish and personal life.

More info about each of these opportunities and registration is in the attached flyers, and can be found on the Women's Ministry website (see flyer, right):

(VarietiesOfGifts.blogspot.com), or contact Cindy Davis (CynthiaDavisAuthor@gmail.com).



BEYOND JUST THE BLUE BOX

All interested Lay and Clergy in the DRG are invited to "*Beyond Just the Blue Box*" a Zoom presentation about United Thank Offering (UTO) and the Importance of Practicing Gratitude on May 1 at 2PM. The Rev. Canon Heather Melton (UTO Staff Officer for TEC) will talk about ways to incorporate a gratitude practices, share resources, information on UTO and the grant process, answer questions, and talk about how UTO can make a positive difference in every parish.

The Diocese of the Rio Grande has received nearly \$600,000 in Grants from UTO since the \$5000 grant in 1919 that supported San Juan Hospital to the \$38,000 grant in 2019 for the Bilingual Borderlands Youth Ministry at St. Paul's, Marfa, TX.

Please Register at <https://tinyurl.com/7zet9ebr> or email Cindy Davis (CynthiaDavisAuthor@gmail.com) to receive the link.



TRINITY ON THE HILL
Cordially Invites You To

SAVE the DATE

Sunday, May 23, 2021
1:00-3:00 pm

Kelly Hall and Surrounding Grounds

Plan to join Fr. Christopher Adams and
Cynthia Biddlecomb for an appropriately
COVID-safe party as they end their ministry at
Trinity on the Hill.

(Watch *the Tidings* for a party in July for Valerie Fassbender!)





Remaining Connected during COVID-19

Let's get something straight: Screen-Time Burnout is a real thing. But it's the safest way to stay connected, so let's use it to the best of our ability. Knowing this, however, we have expanded some in-person offerings for those who desire.

Here are the means by which you can stay connected either physically or digitally while we are remaining socially distant:

Tuesdays:

- Zoom Women Alive: **8am**, link sent out via email (for all women in the parish; contact lynnfinnegan1475@gmail.com for information); once a month there is a Socially-Distanced Hike.
- Zoom Coffee Hour: **10am**, link sent out via email (contact cynthiab@latoth.org for more information)

Wednesdays:

- A Healing Service: **Noon**, www.facebook.com/trinityoth
- Zoom Chime Choir: **5:30pm**, link sent out via email (for all families with young children; contact momto3ducks@gmail.com for more information)

Fridays:

- Zoom Bible Study: **2pm**, link sent out via email (contact cynthiab@latoth.org for more information)

Sundays:

- A Celebration of Holy Eucharist, in person: **8am**, RSVP required. Visit www.latoth.org to RSVP
- A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, digital: **10:30am**, www.facebook.com/trinityoth
- Christian Education: **12:15**, via Zoom, link will be emailed
- Youth Group: contact kfave@cybermesa.com for more information on meeting times and formats