



Trinity Tidings

The Search Begins

Let me once again express my gratitude to Bill Godwin for accepting the Vestry's call to be our Search Committee Chair. I truly believe the Holy Spirit chose Bill, and the Vestry was wise enough to listen.

Listening is actually what I want our entire congregation to consider. We are not embarking on the search for a new CEO. We are seeking to find a new spiritual leader for Trinity on the Hill. The woman or man whom we will call to lead our congregation – perhaps for the remaining years of this decade – is even now being prepared for that role by God. We need to be praying earnestly about the gifts and abilities needed to help this parish prosper and grow –and listening to God's answers to those prayers.

First, however, this congregation needs to discern its own gifts and needs, starting with the members of the Search Committee. Our aim, per the guidance of Canon Lee Curtis, is to assemble a committee of 9-10 members, including 3 people from the current Vestry. In separate articles, Bill outlines details for the formation of the committee, and Fr. Raney offers insight into desirable qualities for Search Committee members. Bill and I will be in close contact over the next few weeks and will finally take a slate of nominees to the Vestry on August 26.

Moving Forward

While parishioners are considering service on the Search Committee, our congregation must also face many issues that will affect the way we present ourselves to potential new Rectors:

- ♦ **Efforts by our congregation to recover from the effects of the prolonged pandemic shutdown;**
- ♦ **Stewardship, both this year and going forward;**
- ♦ **TOTH's website;**
- ♦ **Quality streaming of our worship services.**

The core congregational leaders are returning as services open up, but what about those parishioners who have left because of a lack of social contact – or those still fearful of crowded situations? The Vestry has vowed to continue live-streaming our various worship opportunities, either via Facebook or Zoom. But should we also be looking for other, more effective technologies to keep our brothers and sisters in Christ connected with their church family and to broadcast God's message to folks we haven't yet met?

I say "yes," but this could require additional assistance from our dedicated

(Continued on page 3)



Contents

- p. 2:** Forming a Search Committee
- p. 3:** Search Committee Application Form
- p. 4:** Qualities to consider for Search Committee Members
- p. 5:** Weekly Schedule

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

8 am: Rite I Holy Eucharist
(reservation required)

10:30 am Rite II Choral Eucharist
(reservation required)

Wednesday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist

12 noon: Healing Service

Both in St. Athanasius Chapel

Friday

7:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom)

www.latoth.org/digitalworship

~ Come Worship With Us! ~

All are Welcome

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal
can be found at:

3900 Trinity Drive,
Los Alamos NM 87544

www.latoth.org

505-662-5107

admin@latoth.org

Forming A Search Committee

By Bill Godwin, Search Committee Chair

The process of calling a new rector and welcoming him or her appropriately into TOTH will take the efforts of all of us and involve several groups or committees. I have been asked to chair the first of these committees, the Search Committee for the new rector.

Per the current guidance from Canon Lee Curtis, the Diocesan Transition Officer, who will be guiding us through this process, the first step that the vestry and I need to take is to assemble the rest of the committee, which will be 9-10 people, about a third of them current Vestry members. The primary purpose of this letter is to solicit expressions of interest from those of you in the congregation who would be interested in being part of the Search Committee, who can make the time commitment required, and who have the energy to undertake the considerable task of trying to discern what God's plan is for TOTH going forward.

It may help to understand the schedule. The main hiring season in the Episcopal Church is March-July, and our schedule is driven by the need to be ready to post our opening by the beginning of March, 2022. We will spend August assembling the search committee, and September through November gathering information, including congregational meetings led by Canon Curtis.

December through February will be for writing up the OTM (Office of Transition Ministry) portfolio so that it will be ready to post by March 1. The portfolio is not an extensive document, but it is how we tell prospective rectors who we are at TOTH; congregations, just like individuals, often don't quite know who they are or what they are called to do, so this is a significant effort.

After that we accept names of candidates until the end of April, and then have to review submissions, interview candidates, and finally nominate one name to the Vestry for its approval around mid-May. What the effect of the COVID pandemic will have on this effort is unknown. It may be that we are unable to find a suitable candidate in this first round. As Canon Curtis reminds us, we are on God's time here, so the effort might possibly extend beyond next summer.

If you are interested in being part of the Search Committee, or want to nominate someone else, please send an email to me (bill.godwin@comcast.net) or our Senior Warden, Margaret Odell (meodell18@gmail.com), giving us the following information:

Name/Name of nominee:

Address:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email (the one you actually check):

Member of Trinity on the Hill since:

In a few sentences, why do you wish to be on the Search Committee?/Why do you think this person would be a good fit for the Search Committee?

In a few sentences, what gifts would you/your nominee bring to the Search Committee?

Paper copies of this form will also be available in the box outside the church office, or you can print and submit the form on page 4.

We will accept nominations through Sunday, August 22, so that the Vestry can get the committee membership established by the beginning of September and we can begin our work.

Please be assured that there is more than enough work to go around, so if you aren't chosen for the Search Committee there will be plenty of other opportunities to help with this effort over the next year.



(continued from page 1)

Technical Committee (Michelangelo Lobato, Rick Rothrock, Mark Hartman, Richard and Jonathan Triplett), as well as new hardware and software.

In addition, Fr. Chris had been maintaining the TOTH website with frequent updates and modifications. Nancy Coombs has valiantly added this to her many duties as Parish Administrator. Perhaps, though, parishioners who have ideas about and expertise with web design would like to assist her? We want to put our best images and information in this very public sphere, both to attract new interest in TOTH and to show potential Rectors that we are a vibrant, faithful, active congregation.

All of these efforts will require renewed stewardship of parishioners' time, talents, and treasure. Trinity on the Hill was fortunate to receive two federal loans to support our staff throughout the past 18 months. The good news is that these loans do not have to be repaid. The bad news is that these loans will not be repeated.

As TOTH looks to 2022 and beyond, to maintain our current staff, rejuvenate our internal programming, and return to active outreach efforts will require a larger budget and increased giving. In fact, to expect serious interest from potential Rectors, I submit that TOTH needs to have **at least a balanced budget, if not a projected budget surplus!** Friends, we have not had a balanced budget for more than 2 years, but I believe that by listening to the Holy Spirit we can do better.

While your Interim Rector, Wardens, and Vestry wrestle with day-to-day needs at Trinity on the Hill, we need the help of each one of you to secure the future of our beloved parish. We need you to:

- * bring us your ideas and concerns;
- * step up to join or chair our long-standing Committees (Parish Life, Outreach, Worship, Christian Education, Building & Grounds, Endowment...); and
- * prayerfully consider your financial support by catching up with your 2021 pledge, increasing your current pledge, or making a pledge for the remaining 5 months.

It's never too late to faithfully support TOTH with your offerings of time, talent, and treasure.

Previous generations of TOTH parishioners listened to the Lord and heeded His call to establish an Episcopal church in Los Alamos, NM. We have been blessed with a beautiful church campus and dedicated staff. We have a faithful and committed Vestry, who have been led to select a strong Search Committee Chair in Bill Godwin.

Now is the time for each of us to pray without ceasing to constitute just the right group of parishioners to search for our new Rector – and for him or her to be prepared for God's call to lead Trinity on the Hill.

Prayerfully submitted by

Margaret E. Odell, Senior Warden

Qualities to consider for Search Committee Members

The Vestry is moving forward with the Transition process outlined by the Rev. Canon Lee Curtis at his Parish presentation. The Vestry and Search Committee Chair, Bill Godwin, will work together to choose the members of the Search Committee, as well as noting those who may be put to work on other tasks during the search process.

If you or someone you know is feeling called to be on the Search Committee, please pray about the call and tasks ahead. Generally speaking, these are the qualities that members of the Search Committee should have:

- ♦ Devoted to Jesus Christ and have a healthy faith life;
- ♦ Joyful, Discreet, Responsible;
- ♦ An Excellent listener;
- ♦ Mature: able to discuss hard questions and wait on answers;
- ♦ Should project confidence based on faith;
- ♦ Strongly contributes his or her gifts and resources to the church.
- ♦ Will commit to intensive work through the length of the Transition.

This may be an extended process, and patience is not only a virtue, but a necessity. Prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be essential for every member of the Search Committee and the Vestry as they seek to call the person who will proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ at Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Canon Raymond Raney



Search Committee Application Form

Your Name/Name of Your Nominee:***

Address:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email (the one you actually check):

Member of Trinity on the Hill since:

In a few sentences, why do you wish to be on the Search Committee/Why do you think this person would be a good fit for the Search Committee?

In a few sentences, what gifts would you/your nominee bring to the Search Committee?

*****If you are nominating someone else, have they agreed to be nominated? Y N**

Nominator's Name:

Applications accepted until Sunday, August 22, 2021. Questions? Contact Bill Godwin, Search Committee Chair:

bill.godwin@comcast.net



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.

Tuesdays:

- **Women Alive** via Zoom at 8 am. Contact Rozelle Wright or Lynn Finnegan for the link. First Tuesday meeting outdoors at 6:30 am.
- Zoom **Coffee Hour** at 10 am. Link sent out via email (admin@latoth.org for more information)

Wednesdays:

- **Holy Eucharist** at 7:30 am in St. Athanasius Chapel. In-person service only.
- **Public Service of Healing** at 12:30 pm in St. Athanasius Chapel. In-person (Zoom service will resume after Labor Day)

Fridays:

- **Morning Prayer** via Zoom at 7:30 am. Led by Deacon Lynn Finnegan. Zoom link sent via e-mail.
- **Bible Study** via Zoom at 1 pm. Contact admin@latoth.org for more information

Sundays:

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I** at 8 am, in person only.
- **Choral Eucharist Rite II** at 10:30 am, in person and via Facebook live at www.facebook.com/trinityoth (link also on www.latoth.org)