

Time Together

While We are Apart

St. Mary's Whitechapel and Trinity Episcopal Churches

Wednesday, June 24, 2020



Good day, dear church communities,

Our animals of the week are the grand-dogs of Donna and Pete Ransone! These three dogs live with their daughter Rachael and her husband Gio in Florida. As you may recall from our prayer list notes, Gio is stationed in Afghanistan, and he and his teammates are currently at the Air Force base there, being treated for COVID-19. The hope is that Gio will still be coming home as scheduled in July.

Their dear pups are all rescues; Bernard is a terrier/boxer mix; Jackson is a German spitz, and Lady is a corgi/chihuahua mix. Though Lady is clearly the smallest of the dogs, Donna writes that “Lady keeps the others in line as if she was the mother!” Many thanks, Pete and Donna, for sharing your sweet children, and grand-dogs with us!

A letter was sent by email on Monday of this week, and is included in this Newsletter for anyone who missed it, detailing our plans to begin an in-person worship service this Sunday, June 28th at 10am in the Pavilion at Trinity. Please note that if you want to attend the service, you will need to *make a reservation* as our spaces are limited. You can reserve a spot by emailing, calling, or texting Megan. (rectorstmtrin@gmail.com 804-477-5515)

Mask are required to attend, and six feet of social distance will be maintained. The letter gives other details and guidelines. I will only add that I ask we all bring our patience and flexibility to this new venture! Thoughtful and constructive feedback is welcome and will help us as we learn and grow together in this new venture. As I have said before, if we continue to look back to early March and yearn for that world and that worship, we will be sad and discontented. Together we can instead look to



the future as children of God, called always into a new day, and to serve as vessels of God's love in our community and beyond.

And now onward to a little more “Time Together,”
Megan

Prayer Notes:

We will include our prayer lists in each Wednesday Newsletter and in our Sunday Zoom worship service. Please continue to let us know of folks you would like to have on our prayer lists.

St. Mary's Whitechapel: Chuck McGrath, Don DeFilippo, George Clowser, Susan Goff, Jori Keckman, Nancy Brandon, Ron Okrasinski, Sally Flanigan, Alexa Frisbee, R. W. Courtney, Tammy, Dorsey Ficklin, Glenn Courtney, Terry Thompson, Wendy Burnett, Nora Pennell, Lin Greene, Jake Cobb, Dave Petersen, Dan Ficklin, Marie Beringer, Donna Alexander, Rose, Cecil Courtney, Mimi Chace, Donna Brayton, Hilda Courtney, Robert, Howard Hanchey, Jennifer Cassell Cole, Karen Woodruff, Roger Fortin, Wier Harman, Gina Adams, Brad Quillen, Jessica, Joanne and Michael.

Nursing Home Resident: Lancashire - Mary Sue Courtney

Armed Forces: Joshua Green, Aimee Budzinski, Mark Medina, Kathryn McCormack Akacem, Mehdi Akacem, Thomas Mackie, Pia Mackie, Tate Young, Spencer Fortin.

Trinity: Omid, Nancy Clark, Vicki Simmons Watson, Jerry Gregor, Susan Goff, Janice Shanks, Sherri Carter, Terri, Fran and Dick Davis, Sally Flanigan, R. W. Courtney, Frances Bush, Delford Walthall, Glenn Courtney, Barbara Nunnery, Keith Elswick, Steve, Rick Bateman, Jenny Dunaway, Earline Tomlin Kelley, Ed Borer, Dean Haine, Donna Alexander, Mary and Karen Jackson, Cecil Courtney, Berkeley Kellum, Wendy Boswell, Preston Bryant, Michael, Mel and Frances Ercelino, Hilda Courtney, Robert, Karen Woodruff, Joey Coker, Michael Dunaway, J.W. Boone, Brad Quillen, Ian Larmore, Brandon Dunaway.

Armed Forces: Giovanni Elhordoy, Ward Gavin, Paul Price and Michael Stout.

June and July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Trinity Birthdays: Jamie Hayden, June 12th; Jodie Hayden, June 12th; Alexis Hayden, June 15th; Cole Hayden, June 15th; Dinny Jackson, June 23rd; Julian Cornwell, June 24th; Curtis Walker, June 30th; Stan James, July 2nd; Mariah Mears, July 2nd; Josie Spencer, July 2nd; Kenneth Jett, July 5th; Sydney Price, July 5th; Janet Worsham, July 8th; Janet Christopher, July 11th; Mark Dunaway, July 11th; Shelva Jean Gaskins, July 13th; Ryan Cammarata, July 19th; Carol Roscher, July 23rd; Justin Cammarata, July 25th; Frances Callaghan, July 26th; Brandon Dunaway, July 30th



Anniversaries: Gwen and Stan James, June 16th; Diane and Dukie Smith, June 18th; Jenny and Michael Dunaway, July 20; Megan and Tim Limburg, July 20

SMWC Birthdays: Rita Theisen, June 3; Ursula O'Bryhim, June 16; Ed Ramsey, June 16; Jane Henley, June 17; Jane Fortin, June 22; Warren Hottle, June 29; Barbara Wheeler, July 16; Alison Towles, July 28

Anniversaries: Ed and Sue Ramsey, June 15; Megan and Tim Limburg, July 20

Announcements:

Our Zoom worship service will continue to meet each Sunday, at 2pm (NEW time). With the addition of the in-person worship at 10am at The Trinity Pavilion, the Zoom Sunday service will move to 2pm. Also, the Zoom Coffee Hour will now take place immediately after the Zoom worship, for folks who want to stay on and have a chance to visit. If you want to attend Zoom Coffee Hour, but perhaps do not want to come to Zoom worship, feel free to join the worship at about 2:30pm and Coffee Hour will begin shortly thereafter. The Zoom Sunday worship invitation, sent on Saturdays, will also admit you to the Sunday Zoom Coffee Hour. The site will open at 1:30pm on Sunday to allow for greeting time, and time to work out any technological kinks. If you would like to join us, but need help with technology, feel free to contact Ellen Tracey (804-436-2371) and Richard Gill (804-462-9939). All are welcome! Our Zoom worship services are recorded and the link to the past week's service can be found on the Trinity website: Trinityva.org.

Change in Newsletters: As we now offer Zoom worship and in-person worship each Sunday, our newsletters will change from twice a week to once a week. The *Time Together* newsletter will be published each Wednesday. On Sundays, a reflection from Megan will be emailed to all. For folks without computers, Megan will continue hand delivering newsletters on Wednesdays. The Sunday reflection will be sent by US mail.

On behalf of the Vestries and Treasurers of both churches, I offer a heartfelt THANK you to all! As we enter the fourth month of this new chapter in the life of our world, our country, and our churches, folks in both churches continue to honor their pledges. Many thanks for your support of the churches through your participation, your encouragement, your caring, your prayers, and your monetary support. SMWC and Trinity Churches continue in ministry because of each of you.

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Announcements (continued):

2020 Trinity Episcopal Hammack-Hayden Scholarship Fund Scholarship applications, and cover letters setting forth guidelines, are available from committee members Sally Cornwell (sallycornwell@mac.com), Jane Dunaway (janemdunaway@gmail.com) or Craig Giese(chgfarmer@gmail.com). Applicants should have a personal or family relationship with Trinity Episcopal Church. They should also be enrolled in an accredited institution, pursuing a degree or professional certification related to their career goal. Applications may be mailed or emailed and must be received/postmarked no later than July 31, 2020. This year, due to Covid-19, there will be no church service to honor scholarship recipients and to present their checks. Instead checks will be mailed to them.

A Blood Drive by the Virginia Red Cross will be held at Kilmarnock Baptist Church on Monday June 29th, 10am-4pm. You must make a reservation to give blood. Go to www.redcrossblood.org and click on “Make Your Appointment” to get started.

Washington National Cathedral continues to offer beautiful and moving worship daily. They can be found at cathedral.org.

Please let me know if you are in need of help with getting groceries or other necessities. Call, text, or email and I'll connect you with a volunteer.

You can continue to mail pledges and donations to Rector's Discretionary Fund to each church:

Trinity Church
PO Box 208
Lancaster, VA 22503

SMWC
5940 Whitechapel Rd
Lancaster, VA 22503



Thoughts from the Organ Bench

*by Glenn Courtney, Organist
SMWC and Trinity*

Today I would like to change the format a bit and talk more about a performer and her signature song rather than a particular hymn. You may have read that Britain's famous Dame Vera Lynn passed away recently at age 103. Dame Vera Margaret Lynn (née Welch; 20 March 1917–18 June 2020) was a British singer, songwriter and entertainer whose musical recordings and performances were largely popular during the Second World War. She was widely known as "the Forces' Sweetheart" and gave outdoor concerts for the troops in Egypt, India and Burma during the war as part of Entertainments National Service Association (ENSA). The songs most associated with her are *We'll Meet Again*, (*There'll Be Bluebirds Over*) *The White Cliffs of Dover*, *A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square*, and *There'll Always Be an England*.

She began performing publicly at the age of seven and adopted her maternal grandmother Margaret Lynn's maiden name as her stage name when she was eleven. Her first radio broadcast was in 1935. She supported herself by working as an administrative assistant to the head of a shipping management company in London's East End. In 1937, Lynn made her first hit recordings, *The Little Boy That Santa Claus Forgot* and *Red Sails in the Sunset*.

Lynn's wartime contribution began when she would sing to people who were using London's tube station platforms as air raid shelters; she would drive there in her Austin 7 car. She is best known for the popular song *We'll Meet Again*, written by Ross Parker and Hughie Charles. She first recorded it in 1939 with Arthur Young on Novachord, and later again in 1953 accompanied by servicemen from the British Armed Forces. The nostalgic lyrics ("We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when, but I know we'll meet again some sunny day") were very popular during the war. As a result, she became known as "the Forces' Sweetheart." In 1941 Lynn began her own radio programme, *Sincerely Yours*, sending

messages to British troops serving abroad. Lynn and her quartet continued to perform songs most requested by the soldiers. Lynn also visited hospitals to interview new mothers and send personal messages to their husbands overseas. Her other great wartime hit was *The White Cliffs of Dover*, words by Nat Burton, music by Walter Kent. In 1943, she appeared in the films *We'll Meet Again* and *Rhythm Serenade*.

During the war years, she joined the Entertainments National Service Association (ENSA) and toured Egypt, India and Burma, giving outdoor concerts for British troops. In March 1944, she went to Shamsheernagar airfield in Bengal to entertain the troops before the Battle of Kohima. Her host and lifelong friend Captain Bernard Holden recalled "her courage and her contribution to morale." In 1985, she received the Burma Star for entertaining British guerrilla units in Japanese-occupied Burma.

She remained popular after the war, appearing on radio and television in the United Kingdom and the United States, and recording such hits as *Auf Wiederseh'n*, *Sweetheart* and her UK number one single *My Son, My Son*. Lynn's *Auf Wiederseh'n*, *Sweetheart* in 1952 became the first record by a British performer to top the charts in the United States, remaining there for nine weeks. She made numerous recordings, radio and movie appearances, both in the US as well as in the UK. For a time she hosted her own variety TV show.

Lynn sang outside Buckingham Palace in 1995 in a ceremony that marked the golden jubilee of VE Day. Her last single, *I Love This Land*, was released to mark the end of the Falklands War. In September 2009, at the age of 92, Lynn became the oldest living artist to make it to No. 1 in the British album chart. Her compilation album *We'll Meet Again: The Very Best of Vera Lynn* entered the chart at number 20 on 30 August, and then climbed to No. 2 the following week before reaching the top position, outselling

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both the Arctic Monkeys and the Beatles. With this achievement, she surpassed Bob Dylan as the oldest artist to have a number one album in the UK. In 2014, she released the collection *Vera Lynn: National Treasure* and in 2017, she released *Vera Lynn 100*, a compilation album of hits to commemorate her centenary year—it was a No. 3 hit, making her the first centenarian performer to have a Top 10 album in the charts.



Lynn sings at a munitions factory in wartime Britain, early 1941

Three days before her 100th birthday on 17 March 2017, a new LP entitled *Vera Lynn 100* was released through Decca Records. The album, setting Lynn's original vocals to new re-orchestrated versions of her songs, also involves several duet partners. By October 2017, she was the best-selling female artist of the year in the UK.

On 5 April 2020, the song *We'll Meet Again* was echoed by Queen Elizabeth II in a television address she delivered addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. For the 75th anniversary of VE Day, Lynn and Katherine Jenkins duetted virtually (Jenkins singing next to a hologram) at the Royal Albert Hall, which was empty due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lynn devoted much time and energy to charity work connected with ex-servicemen, disabled children and breast cancer. She was held in great affection by Second World War veterans and in 2000 was named the Briton who best exemplified the spirit of the 20th century.

In 1941, Lynn married Harry Lewis, a clarinetist and saxophonist. They had one child in March 1946, Virginia Penelope Anne Lewis (now Lewis-Jones). Her husband died in 1998.



Lynn in 1973

Lynn's accomplishments and awards are almost too numerous to mention. I have mentioned only a few. Again, her most popular song was

We'll Meet Again, written by Ross Parker and Hughie Charles.

***We'll meet again,
Don't know where, don't know when,
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day;
Keep smiling through,
Just like you always do,
Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away.***

***So will you please say "Hello" to the folks that I know,
Tell them I won't be long;
They'll be happy to know that as you saw me go,
I was singing this song.***

***We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when,
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day.***



Lynn in 2009.

The song was written to boost the morale of the WW II troops, but when I hear it I think of Heaven.

Here are two performances by Miss Lynn:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6X1D2h8AheU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Nzy1cfnKh4>

Source: Wikipedia.com

Reflection

I subscribe to a daily devotional offered by the United Church of Christ (UCC) called Still Speaking, referring to God still speaking in our lives today. The authors are a wide variety of clergy and laity in the UCC. Our reflection today comes from The Reverend Mary Luti, a longtime UCC seminary educator and pastor, author of *Teresa of Avila's Way*, and founding member of The Daughters of Abraham, a national network of interfaith women's book groups. Her reflection is entitled "One Night" and focuses on a passage from Acts.

On the first day of the week, Paul was holding a discussion and he continued speaking until midnight. A young man named Eutychus, sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground and was picked up dead. But Paul went down, and took him in his arms, and said, "Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him." Then Paul went upstairs, and he continued to converse with them until dawn. - Acts 20:7-11 (NRSV, excerpted)

Paul talked till midnight. Eutychus nodded off. Paul kept talking. Eutychus fell out the window, hit the ground, and died. Paul went down, revived him, went back up, and talked straight through till dawn. I can't tell if the author of Acts is impressed, irritated, or amused by Paul's gift of gab. Whichever, the story's a caution for preachers: keep it short.

But Paul went long for a reason. He was leaving the next morning, never to see them again. He had one night to tell these new Christians more about Jesus. One night to encourage their fledgling faith. One night to engage their burning questions. One night to break Christ's bread with them.

One night. He was determined to use every minute, come hell, high water, or defenestration.

We don't want our preachers going long like Paul. But we should want his urgency, his determination to help his siblings' faith, his willingness to talk till dawn if need be to stoke the fire of love for Jesus in the church's heart.

If we understood that we only have one night – this one short life – to be together in love, to share faith's treasures, to increase each other's joy, to embrace the Way, we too might happily be talking straight through night till dawn.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, give me the gift of holy gab, the heartfelt sharing of faith. Just don't let anybody die while I'm talking. Amen.



St. Mary's
Whitechapel
Founded 1669



Trinity Episcopal
Church
Founded 1884

Hi dear churches, and our friends in the larger community,

This week, Bishop Susan announced that the Diocese will begin approving outdoor worship services, as outdoor venues with fresh and circulating air have a reduced risk of spreading COVID-19, in comparison to indoor venues.

We will begin holding a weekly joint worship service this Sunday, June 28th at 10am at the Pavilion at Trinity Church (8484 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster VA). I am working with a subcommittee representing both Vestries in planning this worship. The subcommittee members are Connie Horne, Frances Callaghan and Jane Dunaway.

In order for us to gather in as safe a manner as possible, a few guidelines/rules:

1. We are limited to a maximum of 50 attendees by Governor Northam's order allowing only groups of 50 or fewer. Thus, you must reserve a seat at worship! (I never thought I'd write that sentence...but I will for the health and safety of my flocks!) To reserve a place please email, text or call Megan (rectorstmtrin@gmail.com or 804-477-5515) Please make your reservation by Thursday, June 25.
2. Seating in the Pavilion will be spaced six feet apart. Masks must be worn for the entire time the group is gathered. If you object to wearing a mask this will not be an appropriate service for you to attend.
3. Seating will be assigned. When you arrive at the Pavilion, look for the ushers and they will direct you to your seats!
4. The lower concrete pad on the right-hand end of the Pavilion will be reserved for handicapped parking.
5. As much as we will want to hug one another, PLEASE greet one another in safe and caring ways, maintaining the 6 feet of social distance.
6. Bulletins will be distributed at the service; please plan to take your bulletin home and recycle or dispose of it.

7. There is a bathroom in the Pavilion, and it will be available. The bathroom will be cleaned ahead of the service, and then after each use, Clorox wipes will be in the bathroom so sanitizing can be done by each user before exiting the bathroom.
8. Dress casually and comfortably for this informal service!
9. Please feel free to bring your own water bottle or travel coffee cup to keep hydrated during the service. Hand fans might also be helpful for staying cool.
10. No offering will be taken at this first service. Please continue to mail in pledges to both churches.
11. The service will follow the liturgy of our usual Sunday service, but will conclude at The Peace.

Please give careful thought to your own attendance at this service, considering your own health and age, as well as the needs of those living in your home. The **Zoom Sunday service** will continue each Sunday at a **new time, 2pm**, with Zoom Coffee Hour following immediately afterward.

And please know that whether we gather in-person, or by Zoom or through the *Time Together* newsletter, we are always God's churches, offering care and compassion to one another, and to our hurting world.

Blessings,
Megan