

Time Together

While We are Apart

Trinity and St. Mary's Whitechapel Episcopal Churches

Wednesday,
September 9, 2020

Good day, dear church communities,

Today we feature another "Picture from the Past!" Do you recognize this beautiful one-year-old baby girl, now a member of St. Mary's? She was evidently an enthusiastic toddler and is still known for her cheerful, can-do attitude! She loves being at worship, so whether church is held on Zoom or in-person, she is there. Do you have a guess? Check the first Announcement to find out if you are right!

Do you have a "Picture from the Past" to share with our church communities? We need more photos! Contact Megan to share a snap of your adorable self! (804-477-5515; rectorstmtrin@gmail.com)

This past week, the Bishops gave permission for communion to again be celebrated in our worship gatherings. Of course, we will follow careful safety guidelines and we will receive the bread/wafer only. Our first service of Holy Communion will be celebrated at our Pavilion in-person worship this Sunday, September 13th at 10am. If you would like to attend this service PLEASE be sure to contact Megan to reserve a chair, and a wafer, for you! And if you want to attend but do not want to receive communion, that is fine, just let me know and a seat will be saved. I look forward to being with those able to attend on Sunday and sharing communion and receiving again both the comfort and the challenge of the bread and the wine.



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 worship services. Please continue to let us know of folks you would like to have on our prayer lists.

St. Mary's Whitechapel: Cynthia Mercado, Agnes Robbie, Chuck McGrath, Don DeFilippo, George Clowser, Susan Goff, Jori Keckman, Nancy Brandon, Ron Okrasinski, 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, 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: Jacob Sensenig, Joshua Green, Aimee Budzinski, Mark Medina, Kathryn McCormack Akacem, Mehdi Akacem, Thomas Mackie, Pia Mackie, Tate Young, Spencer Fortin.

Trinity: Susan Goff, Janice Shanks, Sherri Carter, Terri, Fran Davis, R. W. Courtney, Frances Bush, Delford Walthall, Glenn Courtney, Walter and Barbara Nunnery, Keith Elswick, Steve, Rick Bateman, Jenny Dunaway, Earline Tomlin Kelley, Ed Borer, Dean Haine, Donna Alexander, Mary and Karen Jackson, 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.

September and October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Trinity Birthdays: Kellum Hayden, September 8th; Mears Pollard, September 8th; Gwen James, September 9th; Logan Kellum, September 9th; Joshua James, September 17th; Albert Pollard, Jr., September 18th; Brandon Kellum, September 21st; Michael Brent, September 24th; Madison Giese, September 24th; Tracy Hayden, September 24th; Walter Nunnery, September 24th; Cheryl Christopher, October 3rd; Jay Davenport, October 4th; Helen Towles Palmer, October 6th; Dallas Walker, October 9th; Thomas Hyde, October 11th; Lewis Walker, October 14th; Ben Heltzel, October 15th; Fillmore McNeal, October 15th; Dukie Smith, October 15th; Christina Slavin Cammarata, October 17th; Jessica Morgan, October 20th; J. R. Roscher, October 21st; Sydney Gray, October 27th; Savannah Locke, October 27th; Helen Pinkerton, October 29th; Pam Brent, October 30th

Trinity Anniversaries: Dave and Susan Whitlow, October 5th; Anne and Milton Kingsbury, October 13th

SMWC Birthdays: Will Towles, September 1; Frans Kasteel, September 2; Buzz Budzinski, September 4; Fred Olsen, September 4; Linda Stough, September 5; Donna Ransone, September 11; Bob Woods, September 11; Jack Blaine, September 21; Jean Bonnell, September 22; Bo Wright, September 29; Lydia Brittle, October 6; Mary Sue Courtney, October 10; Don DeFilippo, October 12; Anne Stanley, October 22

Anniversaries: Don and Jean DeFilippo, September 11

Announcements:

Our "Picture from the Past" is of Barb Fasig of SMWC! She grew up in Ohio and is the youngest of seven children. After six other babies, I am so glad her parents still got a one-year-old photo made of her! Many thanks, Barb, for this wonderful Picture from your Past!

My day off has been a challenge in this time of pandemic with required tasks and meetings seeming to fall on every day! But I am going to return to Mondays as my day off, as it seems to have the fewest meetings. Please know I will likely not return texts or emails on Mondays. Please call my cell or home phone if an emergency. Many thanks.

Our Zoom worship service meets 5pm Saturdays with Prayers for the Evening. Paula will send the bulletin and the Zoom invitation to all that day. This service is a lovely, quiet way to enter into the evening, and we have gathered a wonderful community of folks who enjoy worship at this time and by Zoom. Join us!

Our outdoor worship service for both churches meets on Sundays at 10am at the Trinity Pavilion. This Sunday the 13th we will have our first service of Holy Communion. Please text or email Megan so we can save a seat for you. Masks are required and we maintain six feet of distance. The breezes are fresher than in July; it feels a little like worship on the front porch, with the beautiful accompaniment of music from Glenn and Linda!

Many thanks to the folks from both churches who have cheerfully agreed to read at our Zoom and in-person worship! Are you interested in joining them and being a reader for either service? Please contact Megan to learn more.

Do you need help getting trash to the dump or picking up prescriptions or an occasional grocery item? Please know that we have folks ready to help in our joint churches community. Contact Megan for connection to a volunteer.

Washington National Cathedral continues to offer beautiful and moving worship daily. They can be found at [cathedral.org](https://www.cathedral.org).

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



We need people who want to help us make sure older adults have enough food to eat by delivering hot restaurant meals!



We desperately need people like you to help deliver **EVENING MEALS** in the counties of Lancaster (White Stone/Weems and Lively area), Northumberland and Essex!

Call 804.516.6309 or email lcobb@bayaging.org TODAY!

This service is provided by Bay Aging, your Area Agency on Aging and Community Action Agency, serving the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck communities for 43 years.

www.bayaging.org 800.493.0238





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Changemakers Book Group

What is a Changemaker? Here is a definition from Upswell:

Individuals who are committed to advancing the common good, wherever they operate - locally, nationally, or globally.

Many may recall Upswell's earlier incarnation as Independent Sector. <https://upswell.org/>

We invite you to join the Changemakers Book Group. It is open to everyone who has an interest in reading about a diverse range of Changemakers who live and work today, or who lived in the past.

How will the Book Group work? The Group will meet and discuss one book per month for ten months. Lancaster Community Library will obtain several copies of each book for you to check out. You can participate in a few ways:

- Read the books that are of interest to you.
- Read the books of interest to you and attend the monthly meetings, virtually or in person. Meetings will be held in the reading area when the library is closed.
- Read every book in the series.
- Read every book in the series and attend the monthly meetings, virtually or in person. Meetings will be held in the reading area when the library is closed.

When will the Group meet? What is the Reading Schedule?

Third Wednesdays, 3:30 pm

1. September 16 - *No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference*, by Greta Thunberg
2. October 21 - *Joan of Arc: Image of Female Heroism*, by Marina Warner
3. November 18 - *Wovoka and the Ghost Dance*, by Michael Hittman and Don Lynch
4. January 20 - *Beethoven: Anguish and Triumph*, by Jan Swafford
5. February 17 - *I Am Alfonso Jones*, by Tony Medina; *Hamlet* by Shakespeare
6. March 17 - *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World*, by Jack Weatherford
7. April 21 - *Paulo Coelho: A Warrior's Life, The Authorized Biography*
8. May 19 - *This Child Will Be Great: Memoir of a Remarkable Life* by Africa's First Woman President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
9. June 16 - *A More Perfect Heaven: How Copernicus Revolutionized the Cosmos*, by Dava Sobel.
10. July 21 - *Something of Myself*, by Rudyard Kipling



Thoughts from the Organ Bench

by Glenn Courtney, Organist

SMWC and Trinity

Abide With Me

It has been stated that only the person who can face the prospect of death realistically is able to live this life with purpose and confidence. Such was the conviction of a rather obscure English pastor, Henry F. Lyte, when he wrote the text for *Abide With Me* in 1847, shortly before his own home-going. It has since become one of the favorite hymns for Christians everywhere during times of sorrow and deep distress.

Henry F. Lyte was born in Scotland on June 1, 1793. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, and was a member of the Church of England all his life. Throughout his lifetime he was known as a man frail in body but strong in faith and spirit. His health was continually threatened by asthma and tuberculosis. Despite his frailties he was a tireless worker with an established reputation as a poet, musician and minister. It was he who coined the phrase, "It is better to wear out than to rust out." Wherever he ministered, he was greatly loved and admired by his people.

For the last 23 years of his life, Lyte served as pastor of a poor parish church among fishing people at Lower Brixham, Devonshire, England. During these years his health became progressively worse so that he was forced to seek a warmer climate in Italy. For his last sermon in England in 1847, it is recorded that Lyte nearly had to crawl to the pulpit and his message came as from a dying man. His final words made a deep impact upon his people when he said that it was his desire to "induce you to prepare for the solemn hour which must come to all by a timely appreciation and dependence on the death of Christ." On his way to Rome, Italy, he was overtaken by death at Nice, France and was buried there in the English cemetery on November 20, 1847.

Lyte is said to have written this text along with his own tune shortly before his last Sunday at the Lower Brixham Church. It never became widely used in England until first published in a book, *Lyte's Remains*, in 1850, London. Its first appearance in America was in Henry Ward Beecher's *Plymouth Collection* in 1855 with the notation that "this hymn was meant to be read and not sung." Later it was discovered by William Henry Monk, music editor of the well-known Anglican Church hymnal, *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, and it was included in the first edition of that hymnal published in 1861.

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Altogether William Monk personally contributed 50 original tunes for the hymnal. It is said that in less than half an hour he composed for Lyte's text a tune named *Eventide*. He was inspired by the beauty of a glorious sunset while yet experiencing a deep personal sorrow. In addition to his work as editor of the hymnal, considered by hymnologists to be one of the most important hymnals ever published, William Monk was also choir director and organist at King's College, London.

Henry Lyte's text for this hymn was taken from the account of Christ's appearance with the two disciples on the way to Emmaus and their statement, "*Abide with us: for it is toward evening and the day is far spent*" (Luke 24:29).

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see—
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.
I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.
I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.
Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Here is a performance of ***Abide with Me*** by the BYU Choir, and another by The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFlI6fIgRGQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFHypH9j0EQ>

Source:

Osbeck, Kenneth W., *101 Hymn Stories*. Kregal Publications, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 1982

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 Lillian Daniel, pastor at First Congregational Church in Dubuque Iowa. She is also the author of a number of books including one of my favorites on life as an ordained person, *This Odd and Wondrous Calling* (co-author, Martin Copenhaver)

Change Happens

Lillian Daniel

August 8, 2020

Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us - Romans 5:3-5 (NRSV)

That is just a snippet from an amazing chunk of Paul's letter to the early church in Rome. If you're curious to read the rest of it, you can open your own Bible. Or you can read straight from an online Bible by clicking here: [Romans 5:1-11](#).

Change happens.

But here's what hasn't changed: We're still just trying to connect with each other and share God's love.

Paul sent hand-written letters to encourage the first generation of Christians. Later, the printing press brought people their own personal copies of the Bible, in their own languages, which was revolutionary back in the 1450s. Today you can read the Bible online and compare multiple translations on the screen. And I can communicate this beautiful verse with all of you by email, which you can then share with others.

Change happens.

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So if there's anyone you know who could use a little hope, forward this verse on to them. If there's someone whose character you admire, send an email to that person. And if there's someone who has endured hard times, and grown through it, let them know that you have noticed.

There is no one who can't use more of what this scripture has to offer.

Prayer

Thank you God for hope, endurance and character in hard times, and the promise of better times to come. Amen.