A Word from Our Interim Rector: Rev. Gerald "Jay" Collins
The Power of Pentecost

I am sharing with you an article entitled "Good Transitions." It is from the Episcopal Church's Vestry Papers. I believe the contents of the article will be useful as we begin to move forward on a journey that leads to the call of your next rector.

I hope we will use the article as a platform from which we begin to understand the value of and need for interim ministry. The ministry is not a placeholder until a new person accepts a call to TCO from the Vestry. It is, however, a necessary component of ministry designed to lead a faith community toward a successful change in pastoral leadership and lay participation. Enjoy the read and let's prepare to move forward in faith!
Baptisms
Please welcome one of the newest members of Trinity, Michael David Richie Sammin. On Sunday, April 22, Michael was baptized. Christened in Jesus' name, held in His arms of love. May angels guide Michael's tiny feet and bring smiles to wear. May our Heavenly Father always keep you, dear Michael, in His care.

Bonds
It is with great pleasure to hereby publish the banns of marriage between Brandon Tucker (formerly of Philadelphia, PA) and Tiffany Fritz (Bellevue, OH). If any of you know cause or just impediment why these persons should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, ye are bidden to declare it. Congratulations to the Tucker family!

In Memoriam
Like the roots of the different plants in a garden, joys and sorrows are intertwined in the moments of our lives. In the midst of other joys, it is with heavy heart to report the passing of Thomas Charles Duddy last month. He is survived by his wife - Nelly, his daughter Patricia Duddy-McGee, his son Shawn, granddaughter Megan and grandson Connor.

Recent Happenings
Bishop's Visitation
On Sunday, March 18, we welcomed the Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutierrez - XVI Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania - to preach and celebrate the Holy Eucharist. After a rousing service, we gathered in Buchannan Hall for Fellowship Hour.

Easter Service & Egg Hunt
Christ is risen! On April 1, we came together to celebrate the good news of the resurrection. There were beautiful flowers, a brass ensemble, and a magnificent rendition of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus from our Senior Choir.

After service, a traditional church yard
Remember, you can re-visit this occasion and moments such as these on our Facebook page.

Easter Egg Hunt was held for the little ones. A merry time was had by all!

**Choir Recognition Day**

As is our tradition, Trinity celebrated the Music Ministry with the Senior and Bell Choirs on Sunday, May 6. Thanks to Mary Sampson, our esteemed Music Minister, for her dedication and creative direction. She consistently elevates our worship experience through the gifts of melody and song. Check out one of our performances from that day!

Interested in performing? Want to get back into music? Get in touch with Mary Sampson.

**Special Thanks to You!**

Thanks to generous donations from parishioners, neighbors and friends who supported us in repairing our historic Disston Street stone wall. We also wish to thank the fabulous crew at WM Oehler Masonry for their patience and expertise in rebuilding this structure. A heartfelt thanks also goes to our Property Committee Chair, Chuck Tucker, for his tireless efforts throughout this project. Check out our progress below!

**Hard at Work**

Shown above, the WM Oehler Masonry Crew digging out foundation in preparation for rebuilding the collapsed wall.

**In Progress**

This is the first portion of the project, to rebuild the downed wall. Any inclement weather will delay the completion as dry weather is needed.

**Next Steps**

Future plans include replacing another section of the wall on Disston (toward Oxford Avenue) that is leaning precariously.

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**Special Upcoming Event**
Our 320th Anniversary

Happy birthday to us! Can you believe it? Join us for Trinity Sunday on May 27th for a jubilant service at 10 AM followed by a picnic with friends and family. All are welcome.

Our History

Preserving Our Legacy

The Historical Committee continues to collect, preserve and publicize the history of our 320-year-old parish, including cataloging and protecting the papers and artifacts that have been accumulated over the years. We have also published examples of those artifacts on our new Facebook page, the Friends of Trinity.

We hope soon to expand the reach of the Friends of Trinity from cyberspace into the physical world by chartering a secular non-profit organization under that name to draw on funds that are not available to churches and use that money to better preserve our buildings, artifacts, and grounds under the supervision of the vestry, relieving some of the church's financial burden.

We are also lucky enough to have former parishioner Ken Thomas volunteering to update the graveyard map he first made as a Boy Scout in the 1970s. Local historian Debbie Klak has also continued her efforts to research some of the historically significant people buried in our churchyard in the hope of producing graveyard tours later in 2018. One person buried there, Caesar Penrose, has been the subject of intensive research by Historical Committee co-chair Ginny McCracken. A free-born black man, Penrose was employed as Trinity's sexton for more than fifty years until his death in 1831.

What to learn more? Interested in investigation or research? Or, simply wish to get involved? Contact history@tcophilly.org.

Colonial Drama at Pen Rhyn

From time to time, stories from our past re-emerge shedding light onto the lives of ancestors. Virginia McCracken, co-chair of the
History committee, relays a love story she came across recently while researching the Bickley family in Trinity Oxford's Churchyard. This account comes from "Lights Along the Delaware" by Marion Willis Rivinus and Katharine Hansell Biddle. The story was related by the first Episcopal Presiding Bishop, William White.

Bishop White was Philly born and educated at Philadelphia College (later University of Pennsylvania). Well before then, he was known as "young Billy White". Around 1744, Abraham Bickley purchased the Delaware Riverside estate naming it Pen Rhyn reflecting his Welsh heritage.

Also in Philadelphia at that time was Elizabeth (Betsey) Shewell who was engaged to the artist Benjamin West. West went to England and sent for Betsey to travel over with his father. Betsey's brothers thought marrying this artist was beneath her social standing. The brothers sent Betsey to Pen Rhyn to be "kept under lock and key" by their sister, Mrs. Abraham Bickley III.

Young Billy White, Benjamin Franklin and Francis Hopkinson were all good friends with Benjamin West. They found a way to get a rope to Betsey and she fled through a second story window. They got her down to Chester, where a ship awaited. They thought that the Shewell family would intercept her if they went to the Philadelphia port. Benjamin and Elizabeth were married in London.

Love conquers all indeed!

Giving Opportunities

You asked and we heard! Trinity invites you to consider our new electronic giving program as a way to automate your regular weekly offerings. This service is available via the DONATE button on our website and Facebook page.

Secure electronic giving is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for our church. There is no cost for you to participate. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes (unless that is your preference). When travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, simply donate through our website to allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

Thank you to all who continually support our mission. If you have any questions, please contact stewardship@tcophilly.org.

Sharing the Word
Got something to say? Shoot away! Share your favorite photos & videos with us using the hashtag #tcophilly. Join us @tcophilly - available on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

More of a wordsmith? If you're interested in contributing, your assistance and expertise is always welcome. No experience necessary. For more details, contact techcommittee@tcophilly.org or share your submission via our short web form.

Comments? Suggestions?

Questions, comments, concerns? Let us know.

The newly designed Trinitarian has been rebuilt from the ground up, made especially for viewing on a mobile device. We hope that this new format helps you quickly and easily find the information you need.

The Tech Committee values your opinion. Please feel free to share your feedback in this short, anonymous survey.

Explore the Possibilities

There are a variety of volunteer opportunities at Trinity - something for everyone!

Perhaps you would like to help within the church but not sure how? Explore possibilities in worship, teaching Sunday school, researching history, or singing. Or, perhaps you feel called to help with a mission & outreach ministry?

Whatever your interests, whatever your gifts, there's a place for you! Contact the Parish Office for more information or click the button below.