



# Tidings

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*The Rev. Dr. Nicholas N. Sichangi*

## FUNDRAISING

### Items happening, on the horizon and in the planning phase.

- A Giving Wreath is placed in the back of the church with envelopes. Requests for donations are on each envelope. Thanks to all those who have already given.

- Chocolate covered Strawberries and Chocolate covered Pineapples are available to order. A signup sheet is in the back of the church and on the bulletin board in the Parish House. Orders must be received by June 22nd and will be delivered on June 30. We would appreciate payment prior to delivery of the fruit on June 30th. We will also be selling them at the yard sale.

- Loose Change - A change jar will be placed in the back of the church. Feel free to lighten the load on your pockets or purses by donating your loose change or even dollars if you so desire.

- Paint Party - We are currently planning a Paint Party for anyone who is interested. More details to come however here is a little insight. Reservations will be taken as we will have limited space available. We will ask you to bring your favorite drink (alcoholic or non) and we will have canvases or other items, paint, brushes etc. One of our very own parishioners may lead us in creating our own piece of artwork to decorate our homes. Snacks and other goodies will also be supplied. A fee to cover the painting supplies will be provided once additional details are finalized. We hope everyone will bring a friend or family member and enjoy lots of laughs, music and fun!

More ideas for raising additional funds will be announced. Feel free to ask your neighbors and friends if they would be interested in the fruit or paint party.

All proceeds will help to offset some of the rising expenses we are facing such as the copier/printer, rising utility bills etc.

Thank you!!

Mary Katharine Hitchcock

June

2019

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June 22, 2019

Yard Sale

Come and join us for a fun day from 8:00 am to

12:00 pm.

Baked sale, hot dogs and lots of stuff to buy. Help is needed.

Rain date- June 29



Pentecost Sunday, June 9

the color for the day is Red.

If you can, please wear something red.

**Prayers are asked for**

Elizabeth  
Hamid Basil  
Bob Boulden  
Pam Boulden  
Susan Burkholder  
Marion Conner  
Tim Coudon  
Ronnie Davis  
Donna Dellinger  
Alan Fenson  
Shawnda Fenson



George Gibson  
Bill Gilbert  
Ruth Gilbert  
Dan Graham  
Margaret Graham  
Bill Jackson  
Kathy Koslak  
Regina Lane  
Margaret Long  
Victoria Marsh  
Gayle Mayo  
Daniel McCoy

John McLean  
Mary Morrison  
Larry Parker  
Rose Perrone  
Christopher Porteus  
Janice Potts  
Jane Sichangi  
Betsy Spina  
Lara Tozer  
Those who have passed-  
Doris P. Scott

**AoK -ACTS OF KINDNESS CONTINUING**

We are continuing our AoK Acts of Kindness!! It is so great to see the examples this past month. This is truly God’s love working through all of us at Trinity and as Father Nicholas mentioned in his sermon today letting our “lights” shine one beaming person and Act of Kindness at a time! Thanks to you all we are truly making a difference at Trinity.

**Kindness for May**

~baked cookies and took them to a friend  
~helped organize a 5K fundraiser... to raise money for Type 1 Diabetes Research.  
~helped organize a Military Appreciation Night at the American Legion..  
~a coworker who is diabetic needed to get food due to low blood sugar...went to pay...card was declined...had no cash...I paid for her breakfast. She was so surprised!!  
~contributed funds to homeless person in front of BJ’s.  
~hosted Coffee Hour for Mother’s Day.  
Ross Lee

New Podcast from Bishop M. Curry will start in June. Details can be viewed on website below.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/way-love-bishop-michael-curry-new-podcast-coming-june-2019>

**Women of Trinity Fun Thursday**

**June 20, 2019 from 11:30 am– 2:30 pm**

Hot Dog, Baked Beans Sweets & Drinks \$5.00.  
Join us for lunch, stay for a fun day of cards, games & fellowship!

**Shared Ministry Sunday, June 30**

Only one service at 9:30 am  
at Trinity Church with St. Stephens  
brunch to follow.

**Happy June Birthdays**

- 3 Lindsey (Koenings) Ray
- 6 Jane B. Ayers
- 9 Adelaide Wood
- 10 Virginia Collins
- 20 Heidi White
- 27 Elizabeth Rossi
- 30 Matt Koenings
- 30 Father Nicholas



**Happy June Anniversaries**

- 13 Matt & Beth Koenings
- 28 Sandy & Heidi White

## ***Trinity Balanced Budget***

Trinity is currently pushing to achieve a balanced budget in 2019 and 2020. Thanks to Bill Smith for getting this thrust started. We have a 2019 budget that projects an Appx \$16,000 deficit. This would cause us to use our money market savings which is in danger of being depleted. The objective is to reduce costs or bring in enough revenue to avoid an deficit. This can be done in three ways: Increased tithing, fundraising, and cost reduction. All three approaches are currently being worked on.

The congregation was especially generous in pledging for 2019 and increased its pledges by appx \$12,000 over 2018. Trinity is very thankful for that great response. If you can Tithe more than pledged in 2019, that would be most helpful and greatly appreciated.

Trinity recently received \$1000.00 from the Women of Trinity for church operations. Trinity is extremely grateful for this contribution. Thanks to all your hard work and all you do!

Fund raising starts this year with the Trinity Yard Sale. Please support by attending and also contributing goods for sale. We are hopeful that this will be a successful sale. Thanks to Carol and the Women of Trinity for their involvement.

As the year progress, we need to do more fund raising. If you have any suggestions, please let anyone of the Vestry Members know.

Mary Katherine has presented many fund raising ideas, that when put into place, will help. Chocolate covered strawberries met with success. This is being repeated. The envelope wreath at the back of the church is a way to contribute to offset a specific cost of interest to you. More to follow.

Cost Reduction: Mary Helen and others have come up with cost reductions of \$1400 so far. There are also other areas that may save \$1000 to \$1200. Your cost reduction ideas are needed. Please submit to Mary Helen or other members of the Vestry.

We need to continue to reduce energy costs especially in the Parish House. Please be aware of AC/Heat usage.

We will continue to work on increased tithing, fund raising, and cost reduction. Thanks for your involvement.

*~Richard Lemen*

***Trinity's own 'Marrying Parson'  
the Reverend Frederick T. Virgin***

Kathryn and Charles had decided the marriage would be on the first day of 1927. Adriana was the first to hear the hard knocking on the door to the Parish House. She agreed to wake up her husband. After all, you could not stop determined young love. 14 years ago, Delaware passed the "Gretna Green" title of quick marriages to Elkton. Even though no waiting was required in Elkton, those who sincerely cared about the "religious" part often stopped by the church to have their marriage performed here. "Of course," she thought wryly, starry eyed college students anxious to get married at 2:30 in the morning.



She listened to their nervous chatter, "We met in philosophy class a year ago" Kathryn gushed. "We're still going strong." Charles added; they waited for Reverend Frederick T. Virgin to come downstairs. Charles Colucci's thoughts wandered a bit. He wondered if it would cost him more than a ring. Would his loud Italian family welcome his Irish bride? He quickly pushed those thoughts aside. Who could not love Miss Kathryn Magee, from New York City? She was attractive, smart, had a brilliant mind, and was ready to move to Atlantic City. Make his hometown her hometown.

Reverend Frederick Virgin rubbed his eyes, yawning, as he walked into the room. They explained how lucky they felt when they decided to stay in town during winter break. Now, they could be the first to get married in 1927. This year's total was likely to break all records he thought. Last year was crazy at 118 marriages, if this couple was any indication, 1927 would probably surpass that number. Still, who gets married at 2:30 in the morning? Philosophy students, he guessed to himself. He patted his pocket for reassurance, he had the letter of concern from Kathryn's Priest. There was some hesitation from the Rev. Arthur Monk, he didn't want his congregant participating in "the Elkton marriage mill" and having it solemnized by a church was better than down at the courthouse. His wife would witness it, he would bless it, they were a lucky couple indeed.

Con't

With the ceremony concluded, there they were waving Kathryn and Charles good-bye.

I know much has already been written about Elkton and marriages. A love story is irresistible and to my knowledge none of the endless articles have been written from the church's perspective. Here are some other unique facts about Trinity Church and the "marriage mill."

Yes, there was an actual letter from Rev. Monk (in Connecticut) to Trinity Church (to the Rev. Leswing) in which he referred to Elkton as a marriage mill. Yes, there was a marriage recorded by Rev. Virgin in the parish records (for January 1, 1926) and a notation of 2:30 a.m. for the time of marriage.

Rev. Virgin performed at least 528 marriages during his tenure (there are no records from his last two years as rector though).

Reverend Sidney Dixon performed six separate ceremonies on the same day - August 9, 1921.

The most popular place for a member of Trinity Church in the 1920s and 30s to get married was not in the church but at the Walmsley House about a mile north of the church on Route 213.

The "high three" years of marriages were 1926 with 118; 1925 with 112; and 1925 with 69 – which follows a national trend of marriage surge after the end of World War I. There was a moderate surge in 1950 with 44 marriages which coincides with the end of World War II.

The oldest bride in the record books is 64 marrying for the first time a widower at 75.

And last: two more interesting things about marriages: 1) the vows, as couples recite them today, date back to Thomas Cranmer who laid out the purpose for marriage and scripted modern wedding vows – nearly 500 years ago, in his Book of Common Prayer (1549). The book was revised in 1552, 1662 and 1979; yet the core components of the vows from the marriage service from 1549 are the same things that you think of today, 'to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,' all of that comes from that point. The marriage service has had remarkable continuity compared with most other services. 2) The Benedictine monk Gratian was the first to believe that the consent between two people mattered. That their consent should be a part of a formalized marriage. In 1140 he wrote his own canon law textbook, Decetum Gratiani. This book formed the foundation for church marriages.