



Welcome

to Trinity Church

The Fifth Sunday
after Pentecost

July 13, 2025

*Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;
Rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.
They do not know, neither do they understand; they go about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken. (Psalm 82:3-5)*

We have all been shocked and saddened by the tragedy that unfolded in the Texas hill country early in the morning of July 4. What should have been a day of celebration turned into a day of terror and mourning. As I write this, at least 120 people--including many children--have died. Even more are still missing. There are many unanswered questions about why there were not more safeguards in place. Residents had complained for years about needing a better warning system. A camp continued to build cabins in flood-prone areas deemed hazardous by county officials, even as inspectors signed off on the projects. We could criticize the camp, religiously affiliated but for-profit, as prioritizing money above safety, but one of the co-owners, who perished in the flood, was known to be very cautious about flood risk planning; he never imagined that the protections in place would fail. Some have asserted that federal budget cuts to the National Weather Service and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) contributed to the tragedy, but it is not known at this time whether key personnel were missing and, if so, whether it is because they are no longer employed or stretched too thin. So many factors contributed to the slow response. One local cell phone warning system failed to be activated until hours after the Guadalupe River began rapidly flooding. At one camp, campers and counselors were not permitted to have cell phones--a digital detox so that everyone could enjoy the beauty of nature--but the camp's PA system was knocked out by flooding. A thorough investigation is certainly needed, one that examines federal, state, county, municipal, and camp policies and procedures.

While journalistic and government investigations continue, I caution us against placing blame too quickly. I have heard of very negative and mean-spirited things said online, including even statements to the effect of "Texas is getting what it deserves." I was born and raised in Texas. There is much I love about my home state, and there are also many reasons why I do not live there anymore. But no one deserves a tragedy like this, especially not the children who died and those who survived but are traumatized. Let us instead seek the path of compassion, even as we rightfully ask questions about whether lives could have been saved by better planning, warning, and emergency response systems.

Peace,
Chase

Providing **healing**, proclaiming **hope** & practicing **God's unconditional love**.

Worship at Trinity

Powerful, joyful and Spirit-filled worship that is reverent, warm and inviting, with uplifting music and preaching!

Sundays:

8 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church
A gentle, said service (no music)

10 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church
Joyous, sung music

Monday-Friday:

7:30 AM Morning Prayer said in the home M - F
Resources available at www.TrinityNJ.com/Worship

7:30 AM Friday - Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Wednesdays:

6:30 PM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
Healing Service first Wednesday of the month

Connect with Us

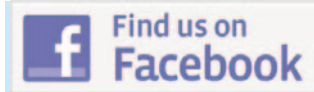
CONTACT US

Trinity Church, 503 Asbury Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Tel: 732-775-5084 • Fax: 732-775-3865

Email: office@trinitynj.com • Web: trinitynj.com

In the case of an emergency, death or serious illness, contact the church office. There is a pastoral emergency option on the phone if no one is available to answer.



[Facebook.com/TrinityAP](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityAP)



[Instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP](https://www.instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP)
(#TrinityChurchAP)



Venmo
(@TrinityChurch)

Trinity Basics

PASTORAL SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS: Contact Jill Osis in the parish office for all non-emergency pastoral needs: Baptisms, the rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent (personal confession & counsel), Blessing of Marriage & Unions, communion for the sick and homebound, or visits to the hospital.

PANTRY & COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN: The Trinity Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 10:30AM-1PM and on Saturday, a hot, sit-down meal is served from 11:30AM-12:30PM. Questions? Contact Derek at Derek@TrinityNJ.com.

CHOIRS: Find out about our dynamic and growing choirs, contact Dr. Deborah Simpkin King at Deborah@TrinityNJ.com for information!

PARISH LEADERSHIP (*Vestry*):

Bill Presutti (warden) Carol Scollay (warden)
Brice Byham, Gregory Curatolo, Donna Griffin, Wendy Jaghab, Mary Perez, James Pillar, Andy Place, Maria Tassiello, and Adrienne Wert You may contact the vestry at: vestrywardens@trinitynj.com

Parish Staff

The Rev. Chase Danford, Rector
FrChase@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tom Conway, Assisting Priest
Tom@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Geoffrey Curtiss, Assisting Priest
geoffcurtiss@gmail.com

The Rev. Katherine Cunningham, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
Katherine@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
Revolu@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tom Pivinski, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
TomP@trinitynj.com

Jennifer Berger Brown, Development Manager for Donor Relations
Jennifer@Trinitynj.com

Kris Hlatky, Casework Manager
Kris@Trinitynj.com

Deborah Simpkin King, Director of Music and Arts
Deborah@trinitynj.com

Derek Bloom, Director of Community Engagement & Organizing
Derek@trinitynj.com

Kenny Miller, Property Assistant

Siobhan Noland, Development Manager for Grants
Siobhan@Trinitynj.com

Jill Osis, Director of Operations
Jill@trinitynj.com

Courtney Pearson, Operations Manager
Courtney@trinitynj.com

Tim Sexsmith, Property Supervisor
Tim@trinitynj.com

Parish Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

Faye Hudson	Gregory Curatolo	Mark Gordon
Jackie Campanelli	Sylvia	Eric
Manal Miller	Greg Manzi	Bill Koegel
Stephanie	Zoe & Taz	
Margaret Jones	Addison Levenstein	
Miles	Tom Johnson	
Denzel Donaldson	Chet Szymanski	



If you would like to be added to the prayer list or would like to add someone else (*please get their permission first*), please email prayer@trinitynj.com or call Wendy Jaghab at 732-616-8568 by the Tuesday before you would like the name to appear in the bulletin. Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, and can be readded upon request.

Prayer Team Ministry. During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them are invited to come to one of the prayer stations located in the back of the church. A member of the Trinity Prayer Team will say a prayer with you for yourself or someone else. You are welcome to sit or stand during the prayer. What is said at the prayer station is held in confidence by the person who prays with you. They cannot talk with you or anyone else about your requested prayer without your permission. The only exception is a person intending to harm themselves or someone else. Questions about this ministry? Contact Joanie McCoy, leader of the Prayer Team at 908-216-5529 or 732-780-3111 or PrayerTeam@TrinityNJ.com.

Trinity Cycle of Prayer During Morning Prayer this week, we will be praying for the following Trinity Parishioners and Friends:

7/14	7/15	7/16	7/17	7/18
Debbie Jacobus & Bob Conrad	Wendy Jaghab	Thomas Johnson	Megan Jones	Eric & Dori Jones

News & Notes

Guest Preacher Today

The Rev. Rupert Hall, United Methodist pastor and founder/executive director of Hope for the City, will be our guest preacher at both the 8 am and 10 am services today. Pastor Hall and the Rev. Douglas Grote, Trinity parishioner and Presbyterian pastor, will also lead a presentation and discussion on the Poor People's Campaign and how to get involved in the New Jersey chapter. The presentation will be in the auditorium at 9 am. For more information about the Poor People's Campaign, please visit: www.poorpeoplescampaign.org

Take Me Out to the Ball Game! Trinity BlueClaws Trip July 18 Today is the Last Day to Get Your Ticket!

It's baseball time! Join us on Friday, July 18th for a 7pm game at the BlueClaws' Lakewood stadium. The theme for the night is Star Wars and there will be fireworks after the game.

Tickets are \$13 and they can be reserved and paid for in advance by visiting

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z95F/campaign/C-14XYJ>, scanning the QR code to the right

or by contacting Courtney Pearson in the parish office or emailing her at

Courtney@trinitynj.com. Today is the deadline for purchasing tickets. We will be meeting in the parking lot at 5:30pm for fellowship time before the game! It is always a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship when we gather together to cheer on our local BlueClaws team!



RESCHEDULED! Slow Roll Blessing of the Bikes ~ July 22nd, 6:30pm at the Asbury Carousel

The summer weather can't keep us from rolling! Join us for our Rescheduled Slow Roll Blessing of the Bikes on July 22nd at 6:30pm. You can bike directly to the Carousel (at the boardwalk and Asbury Ave.) or park at Trinity at 6pm and we'll ride over to the Carousel in Asbury Park together to kick off the riding season. Enjoy a special blessing from Fr. Chase, followed by a leisurely ride through Asbury Park. All riders and ages are welcome (helmets required for under 17). You'll also learn about the 7th Annual Jersey Shore Ride for Food Justice, supporting vital programs at the Trinity Center for Community!

Poor People's Campaign Witness Wednesdays on August 6

Trinity parishioners are invited to join the The Poor People's Campaign for Witness Wednesdays on Aug 6th at Noon at World War II Memorial Park, 125 West State Street, Trenton NJ 08608. The Poor People's Campaign rallies each first Wednesday of the month to pray and hear testimonies from those most affected by federal funding cuts to social services. The campaign encourages our state legislators to prioritize the needs of the poor and low-income working people of our state – your friends, your family and your neighbors - so that every person can live in dignity and thrive. If you would like to join us or need a ride please email Derek at Derek@trinitynj.com.

Rector Responds to IRS Ruling on Political Endorsements by Faith Communities

From the Rev. Chase Danford, Rector: This week the Internal Revenue Service reversed long-standing policy preventing houses of worship from endorsing political candidates. To be clear, faith communities have always had the right to endorse candidates, but they risked losing their tax-exempt status if they did so. I believe this decision is a mistake, one that is unhealthy for our democracy and for faith communities. Please know that Trinity will not be endorsing political candidates. We discuss public issues, and we advocate for policies that flow from our values. But it is one thing to advocate for specific measures to improve lives and another to endorse candidates. No candidate is perfect. Some candidates are clearly flawed. But people have good reasons for voting for flawed candidates. It is up to us as a faith community to be clear about our values, and then hope that our members are guided by those values when they vote.

Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm

Please come out to Bible Sharing on Wednesdays @ 5pm for "Summer Potpourri"! Each week there will be presented a new Faith topic which we will explore interactively. We will have fun as we grow so please join us! Beginners welcome. Questions? Call Joanie 908-216-5529

Trinity Summer Fellowship Series Is Here!

Our Hospitality Committee invites you to participate in our Summer Fellowship Series! We have several events happening and you are welcome to attend as many as you wish!

Friday, July 18 at 7pm – BlueClaws Baseball & Fireworks (\$13) Join us for a fun evening of baseball, friendship, fireworks, & fun! We'll meet in the parking lot before the game for some extra fellowship time! Details on page 3!

Tuesday, August 5 at 7:30pm - N&D Electric Duo Concert (free) Bring a beach chair or blanket for a night of dancing and fun at the Avon Pavilion in Avon. Wear your Trinity t-shirt or gear if you have it and meet us on the beach next to the boardwalk on the North side of the Pavilion.

Tuesday, August 26 at 6pm - Sensational Soul Cruisers Concert (free) The Asbury Park Music Foundation Summer Series presents the Sensational Soul Cruisers at Springwood Park in Asbury Park. Wear your Trinity t-shirt or gear if you have it and bring chairs or blankets. We'll meet at Springwood Park and enjoy music under the stars.

Volunteer Opportunities in our Feeding Programs!

On Tuesdays, our Food Pantry is looking for people to sign up to be here from 9:30am-1pm to provide hospitality and help with pantry flow. Pantry guests wait in our gym as a place for people to gather and receive hospitality while they waiting for their turn to be served. Questions? Contact Derek at Derek@trinitynj.com. Sign up to volunteer here: www.signupgenius.com/go/8050848ADAF2FA1FD0-45101754-pantry

Saturday Soup Community Meal On the first Saturday of every month, we invite you to volunteer on Trinity Saturdays from 10am till 1:30pm. Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050848ADAF2FA1FD0-trinity1>

Children and Youth at Trinity ~ Join Us!

Summer Sundays - Join us each week as we have some summer fun each week beginning at 9:45am. We will read stories, make crafts, play games and then rejoin our families after The Peace. For questions, contact Jill Osis at Jill@trinitynj.com.

Nursery - Our Nursery is open every Sunday from 9:45am until the end of the service. The nursery will accept children aged 6 months through 4 years. The nursery is located at the end of the hallway in the office wing.