

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
The Episcopal Church in Athens since 1842
703 South Main Street (office at 701) Athens, PA 18810
The Rev. Benjamin Lee Lentz, Long - Term Supply Priest

Office: Voice and Fax: 570-888-5715
Parish Administrator, Barbara Cameron Caum: 570-888-8981
Web Site: www.trinityathens.org - information@trinityathens.org
[Facebook.com/Trinity.Episcopal.Church.Athens](https://www.facebook.com/Trinity.Episcopal.Church.Athens)

Late Pentecost - October, 2023

Our Trinity family has, of late, lost so many of our life-long members. We are privileged to have known them and had them in our midst as we shared the journey of this life. The following sermon, preached by Fr. Ned at Barbara Weller's memorial service in 2000, applies to both those who have gone before and the journey we all continue. As you read the sermon, think of, Don, Joyce, Pat, Mary, or your own loved ones.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
[Romans 8:38-39]

Going Home

Sermon at the Memorial for Barbara Weller, November, 2000
The Rev. Canon Edward L. Caum, III

While outside in the evening at my sister's house north of Pittsburgh, I could see the lights of an airplane coming from a long distance, eventually I was able to hear the plane.

That night there was a high cloud layer. All of a sudden I could no longer see the plane, but I could still hear it. Shortly, I could no longer hear the plane but I knew it was still there ... out of sight ... out of hearing, but still on its journey. Like the airplane, we cannot see or hear Barbara, but she is still there.

I started thinking about all the people on that plane ... some white, some black, professional people, business people, members of our armed forces, homemakers, children, the crew ... and I thought what a diverse group they probably were. I thought what one thing could possibly unite them.

Then it dawned on me - they all had a home... that we all have a home ... some place we all belong; some place that is ours.

We are all like those people on the plane. We are all on a journey - a life's journey. Barbara is on a life's journey. In an instant of time we are born. Our jour-

ney begins. From the very beginning we are headed home - Home to God -we have been created to be with God. God made us for himself. He revealed himself to us in the Old Testament and most especially in Jesus.

In the Old Testament Jesus is called Emmanuel - "God with us." *God with us.* Jesus shows us that God is Love.

Barbara's journey began years ago and continues today. Like the airplane, we can no longer see her but, in faith, we know that her journey to God continues.

The letter of Paul, just read, said that nothing can separate us from the Love of Christ. Nothing can, nothing outside us; only we ourselves can choose not to be with God.

Our Gospel today tells us that Jesus has prepared a place for us .. a special place .. a special home for us with the Father. That's where we are all headed, you, me, and Barbara. We are all, if we choose, we are all headed to a special place with God, as is Barbara.

Patricia Ann "Pat" Weller Gurney

Patricia Ann "Pat" Weller Gurney, 95, of Waverly, NY, passed away peacefully on the 8th of Sept., 2023 at Elderwood Nursing Home in Waverly, New York.

She was born on Sept. 26, 1927, in Sayre, Pa, and grew up in Athens, Pa. She was the daughter of Harold (Doc) and Hazel Page Weller, the youngest of three. Pat graduated from Athens Area High School in 1945, and attended the Robert Packer Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1948.

She worked as a RN in Oklahoma, Alaska, Florida, and the Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre, Pa, retiring in 1989, to travel and enjoy retirement. Briefly, Pat lived in Germany as a Military-wife, where she was an instructor in mother-baby care through the ARC. She loved to travel and camp, and had visited all 50 states of the USA.

In high school, Pat was voted the class “social butterfly”, and it showed in her long-lasting friendships she held, and her cheerful demeanor with everyone she met. She loved to knit, and encouraged creativity in those around her.

Pat was a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Athens, where she served as a Worship Leader and Chalice, as well as a member of the Altar Guild and Vestry. She fostered a Love for God in those around her, and held a life-long dedication to Him.

Notably, she was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, where she served as Worthy Matron, as well as District Deputy Grand Matron, Grand Matron and Grand Representative of South Carolina in Pennsylvania. While living in Florida, Pat was awarded the Rainbow Cross of Color, for all her work with the International Order of The Rainbow for Girls of St. Cloud, Florida.

Pat is survived by her children: John Gurney of Columbus, Ohio, Evelyn (Jeffery) Johnson of Ishpeming, MI, Patricia Martin of Towanda, Pa, and Janet Gurney (Judy Phillips) of Indianapolis, IN, son-in-law Kent Stanley of Carlotta, CA, and her brother Harold “Ike” Weller of Miami, FL. As well as by her grandchildren, Amanda (David) Bivins of Champion, MI, Jack (Stacey) Forbes of Petoskey, MI, Jeremy (Bethany) Forbes of Ishpeming, MI, Noah (Jillian) Gurney Wadsworth, OH, Heather (Steven) Lake of Punxsutawney, Pa, and Catherine Phillips-Gurney of Indianapolis, IN, and by a plethora of great-grandchildren she loved dearly: Blake, DJ, Ian and Jacob Bivins, Malcom Forbes, Leo and Lola Dockery, Everett, Emerson and Elliot Forbes, and Eden and Jane Gurney.

In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by her daughter Catherine Stanley, and sister Lois Jones.

In keeping with Pat’s wishes, all services will be private. The family is being assisted by Lowery-Urban Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., Athens.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Pat’s name to Eastern Star Chapter #498, C/O Shirley Rockefeller, 500 Cook Road, Rome, Pa 18837

Mary K. Patterson, 90, of Athens, Pa passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Thursday afternoon, Sept. 7, 2023.

Mary was born in Sayre, Pa, on May 1, 1933, the

daughter of the late George and Nellie (Shomoska) Miller.

Mary grew up in Towanda and attended St. Agnes High School, graduating as Valedictorian of her class of 1951. She was employed with Ingersoll-Rand in Athens, working in the payroll department for over 30 years. Mary was also on the Election Board of the Athens Borough First Ward. Mary was a long-time member of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Athens, and served on the Altar Guild for many years.

Mary was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother; her greatest love was her family. Mary really enjoyed entertaining family and friends during the holidays. She loved her home and in the summer months you could always find her tending to her numerous beautiful flower gardens. In the colder months, Mary was usually knitting and crocheting afghans and other needlework. She also enjoyed ceramics, crafting, music and was an excellent cook.

In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by her brother William “Bill” Miller and sister Barbara Miller.

Mary is survived by her husband of 61 years James Patterson of Athens, Pa, Andrew Patterson of Arlington, VA, daughter Kathy Ayres of Athens, Pa, grandchildren Alexandra Ayres of Canton, Pa and Jonathan Ayres of Athens, Pa. She is also survived by her sisters Patricia Sherbondy of Hagerstown, MD, Rose Altman of Gettysburg, Pa, and Helen Miller of Towanda, Pa, and brother Georg Miller of Boston, MA, several nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023 at 10 a.m. at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 703 South Main Street, Athens, Pa with Rev. Benjamin Lentz officiating. The family is being assisted by Lowery-Urban Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., Athens, Pa.

Burial will follow at Tioga Point Cemetery, Athens.

Not a Social Club

It has been said that a church without outreach is nothing more than a social club. Trinity is definitely not a social club. Our members have the desire to minister to our community and the world. However at this point in time, we are lacking a coordinator to facilitate our giving spirit. We need a personal willing to help us develop and fulfill

Cont'd on p. 4



Trinity Episcopal Church - October 2023

Late

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
--------	--------	---------	-----------	----------	--------	----------

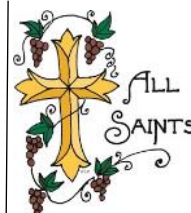
Trinity Cycle of Prayer: 10/1 Marie and Tom Bubniak. 10/8 Tom & Shannon Bubniak. 10/15 Joe & Laura Cama; Rachel Cama, Cole and Dennis Cama-Nemer; Tim, Jennifer, Lily Cama. 10/22 Barbara and Alan Caum, Nate Schwartzberg. 10/29 Marcella & Walt Chaykosky.

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals is October 8

Bethlehem: 10/1 Christ Church, Reading, The Rev. Bryce Wandrey. 10/8 St. Mary's, Reading, The Rev. Bruce Baker. Clergy of the Diocese. 10/15 Redeemer, Sayre, The Rev. Canon Melinda Artman, The Rev. Scott Harvey. Pennsylvania Council of Churches. 10/22 St. James', Schuylkill Haven. 10/29 Good Shepherd, Scranton.

Our sister Diocese of Kajo Keji: 10/1 St. Mark Ajio Parish. 10/8 Pasiki Parish. 10/15 St. Joseph Kala. 10/22 Woro Parish and Romogi-Barebo Primary School. 10/29 St. Matthew Gaderu Parish.



<p>1 Pentecost 18 P-21 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour</p> <p><i>Chris & Heather Hunsinger</i></p>	<p>2 AA 7 and 8:00 pm</p>	<p>3 6:30 - Pre-Convention Zoom Meeting Register at diobeth.org</p>	<p>4 St. Francis of Assisi AA Intergroup 5 pm AA 7:30 pm</p>	<p>5 AA 7 pm 6:30 - Pre-Convention Zoom Meeting Register at diobeth.org <i>Carla Ross</i></p>	<p>6 <i>Stacey Baster</i></p>	<p>7 <i>Kathy Patterson Tom & Shannon Bubniak</i></p>
<p>8 Pentecost 19 P-22 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals UTO Ingathering</p>	<p>9 AA 7 and 8:00 pm</p>	<p>10 <i>Brandon Hunsinger</i></p>	<p>11 AA 7:30 pm <i>John Bubniak</i></p>	<p>12 AA 7 pm</p>	<p>13 Diocesan Convention - Center Valley <i>Meredith Beck</i></p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Pentecost 20 P-23 10:00 Morning Prayer 11:00 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>16 AA 7 and 8:00 pm</p>	<p>17 <i>Tom & Kathe Maneval Brandon Bubniak</i></p>	<p>18 St. Luke the Evangelist AA 7:30 pm</p>	<p>19 AA 7 pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 10 - Mary Patterson Memorial Service</p>
<p>22 Pentecost 21 P-24 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour --Vestry Meets --</p>	<p>23 St. James of Jerusalem AA 7 and 8:00 pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 AA 7:30 pm <i>Fanna Proper</i></p>	<p>26 AA 7 pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles <i>Isabella Hill</i></p>
<p>29 Pentecost 22 P-25 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>30 AA 7 and 8:00 pm</p>	<p>31 <i>Grace Barton</i></p>	<p>Anglicans Around the World: 10/1 The Anglican Church in Japan, Archbishop Luke Kenichi Muto. 10/8 The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, Archbishop Hosam Naoum. 10/15 The Anglican Church of Kenya, Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit. 10/22 The Anglican Church of Korea, Archbishop Peter Kyongho Lee. 10/29 The Anglican Church of Melanesia, Archbishop Leonard Dawea.</p>		<p> ALL SAINTS</p>	<p>All Saints observance is Sunday, November 5, Renewal of Baptismal Vows And, Daylight savings ends - Fall back at 2 am</p>

October at Trinity

Worship is Sundays at 10 a.m.

**Sunday, October 8 - Holy Eucharist II
- St. Francis Day Blessing of the
Animals and United Thank Offering
Ingathering**



Friday-Saturday October 13-14 - Diocesan Convention, Centennial Conference Center, Center Valley, Pennsylvania. Our delegate is **Loyd Moreno**

Sunday October 15 - Morning Prayer

Saturday, October 21 - Memorial service for Mary Patterson, 10 a.m.

Sunday, October 22 - Holy Eucharist II

Sunday, October 29 - Holy Eucharist II

Not a Social Club - Cont'd from p. 4

our ministry by contacting groups that could use our assistance: e.g. Bradford County Abuse & Rape Crisis Center, school nurses or administrators that can offer suggestions to help meet the needs of their students, senior care centers, organizations that receive items for Thanksgiving or Christmas baskets of food, and the such. The contacting of these organizations might be as simple as a phone call asking what they need, then making that need known to our congregation, then coordinating with them the delivery of physical goods.

Please consider prayerfully if this is a ministry for you.

Fr. Ben

Passing the Baton

Do you remember running in a relay race when you were younger (and running was still fun)? As a member of the team, you gave it your absolute all, running as fast as you could, and as you reached the next team member, they begin running with you, you passed the baton and they took up the race as you caught your breath, giving it their all.

We're not racing here at Trinity, definitely not, but the illustration holds and the current runner is ready to pass that baton in January. So far, there is no one waiting to take it.

Our Senior Warden, Dan Gerhart, has served since May, 2011. He accepted the position, reluctantly, during a difficult time - our rector, Trula, was leaving the area, our current senior warden moved to another faith, and we were in the midst of a major restoration of the church building. He has done a stellar job, fully embracing the ministry.

Suffice it to stay, his leg of the relay is complete and it is time for him to catch his breath. But who is waiting to take the baton? The senior warden is many things - the chief officer of the corporation, the person who is responsible for the physical plant as well as for making sure our spiritual life is well tended, the person who follows up on making sure what needs to happen happens. He or she does not do this alone - the vestry members, Barbara, and Fr. Ben all work together, but to borrow a phrase, the buck stops with the senior warden.

It is time for the next runner to take the baton.

Trinity Episcopal Church
703 S. Main Street
Office: 701 S. Main
Athens, PA 18810



Late Pentecost
October 2023

To seek and serve Christ in all people