



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

July 2015

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Here at Holy Trinity, the “formation year” has ended, Vacation Bible School has come and gone (a tremendous success!), and summer is certainly upon us. Normally, this is a relatively quiet season of church life for clergy and lay leaders. For good and for bad, that is simply not the case this year.

Your staff and many of your lay leaders met on June 8th for a wonderfully productive staff planning day, at which we scheduled events for the 2015/2016 year and identified areas of focus. While we made no significant changes to our parish life, we are hoping to implement some exciting ideas for the coming year.

One such experiment is the use of a new bulletin. Long before my arrival, your Vestry identified the substantial resources Holy Trinity spends on paper, ink, and staff labor in the production of our bulletins for Sunday worship. All avenues have been pursued by your Vestry—from maintaining the status quo to leading worship entirely out of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and the 1982 Hymnal. Believe it or not, I was asked about this topic during my interview process before being called to Holy Trinity.

The challenge to leading worship entirely out of the BCP is two-fold. First, the 1979 BCP is surprisingly confusing, even to life-long Episcopalians not versed in its regular use. While all of us could certainly learn how to use it, we have a growing number of visitors, both at our 8:00am and 10:30am services. This would make worship for them inhospitable.

Secondly (and less known at Holy Trinity), General Convention (the governing body of the Episcopal Church) has authorized no less than six collections of supplements to the 1979 BCP (The Book of Occasional Services, Enriching Our Worship 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5). While much of the content of these supplements are not pertinent to our worship at Holy Trinity, some of it very much is. In fact, unbeknownst to some, Holy Trinity was using resources from both the Book of Occasional Services and Enriching Our Worship 1 during regular Sunday worship before I arrived. Therefore, going back to leading liturgy entirely out of the 1979 BCP would constrain and hinder our worship.

Being Episcopalian, I have sought the *via media*, and decided to reintroduce the use of the 1982 Hymnal during Sunday worship, while keeping a bulletin for the spoken liturgy. Our call for donations in order to have sufficient 1982 Hymnals has been nothing less than overwhelming. At last count, we have received money for 200 new hymnals in thanksgiving or remembrance of a loved ones. Thank you!

As a next step, your staff and I have developed a new bulletin that we will begin to use in worship on Sunday, July 5th. This bulletin has been designed to minimize paper and staff labor while seeking to elevate quality and accessibility. We will continue to print

service music, as well as music we sing from authorized hymnal supplements in the bulletin.

As we make this change, and as we implement some exciting ideas this coming year, I request two things: 1) I ask that you “try on” the new bulletin and/or a given idea before you decide whether you like it or dislike it. No bulletin, no ministry, no event is permanent in the church. We will never know where the Spirit might be leading us if we do not give new ideas a try. 2) I ask for feedback. This bulletin is not in final form any more than any of us are God’s finished product. If you have thoughts, I ask that you share them with me, with your staff, or with your lay leaders.

Whether you (like your staff) are surprisingly busy this summer, or whether you are finding time to enjoy the beach or the sun, I send you God’s blessing and abundant joy this month. Faithfully, Jeff+



A meditative walk through the labyrinth this month may have landed you into the Garden of Eden, complete with live fish pond. A costumed sheep (rumored to be Father Jeff), may have greeted you, and a giant whale may have swallowed you into their tent. What happened to our church?! Vacation Bible School, God's Critters, happened!

This past month, 75 children from our community came together for an Old Testament journey guided by God's critters. Five lessons led them on a Biblical exploration: Creation, Balaam and the Donkey (Listening), Jonah and the Whale (Obeying), Daniel and the lion's den (Trust), and the lost sheep (Belonging). With the help of both Holy Trinity and St. John's volunteers, God's critters rotated through six stations, science, art, outdoor activities, story time, drama, and snack. There were few tears and many squeals of delight, we couldn't have done it without everyone's support. Many thanks to all the volunteers, Shepherdesses, station leaders, set and logo designers, and all the behind the scene planning that made this year's Vacation Bible School a roaring success! Conchita Harris, Mary Mac, Jordan Capps

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Labyrinth Walk in July 9th The evening Labyrinth walk for July will be postponed a week - to **Thursday, July 9th between 7 and 9 pm**. Please come promptly at 7 pm if you wish to view the optional orientation video; otherwise, please arrive no later than 8:15 pm if you just want to walk it. Candles and soft music accompany the walk. Joyce Loughlin



THE SOUND OF OUR SPACE: CONCERT MUSIC @ HOLY TRINITY

Flutist Sterling Harlston along with pianist Tim Walters will present a solo flute recital on Saturday, July 18th at 3:00 pm. Mr. Harlston lives in Fayetteville and is a graduate of Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina. Tim Walters is a graduate of University of South Carolina and at present, teaches from his own piano studio.



Sterling will also be playing flute at the Labyrinth Walk on the evening of Thursday, July 9th, as we bring in more live music to this very special part of Holy Trinity's spiritual outreach. JDW



A MESSAGE FROM HOLY TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Summer fun continues at the preschool. There are still openings for the weeks of July 13-16, 20-23 and August 3-6. The children must be 3 to 5 and have had a year of preschool. Sessions are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 to 1:00, with the children bringing their lunch.

We will be getting more hardwood chips for the playground in August and are looking for help spreading the chips. Please let Ruth know in the preschool office if you - and your wheelbarrow - are available. Thanks for helping us keep our playground safe and play-able!

We still have openings for 2- and 3-year-olds for the fall. Call 484-0250 for more information. Ruth Gillis

JULY BIRTHDAYS

2 John Derrick, Taylor Long, Judith Reynolds* 6 June Lancaster, Mary N. Mercer, Pat Spears * 8 Jim Sumners *11 Jean Canham, Maureen Middleton* 12 Donna Morse* 13 Carey Downing* 14 Richard Bull* 15 Kasmin Davis, Jacob Salzberg, Kim Holfelder, Carmen Navarez, Clara Schwamm* 16 Grace Salzberg, Karen Goble* 17 Judy Brown, David Sullivan, Alison Van Nyhuis* 18 Zane Jordan* 20 R.G. Heckerman* 22 Roddy Davis* 23 Jacob Nadalini* 24 Pam Harsant, Kathy Thaman* 26 Susanne Kohrman, Chayla Scott* 28 Amy Davis, Sheryl Jordan, Carol G. Oates, Janet Seawell, Norman Snellgroves* 29 Scott Hancox* 30 Carlon Mercer* 31 Mackenzie Davis, Virginia Franks, Ian Jones*



News from the Food Pantry

A total of 279 bags of food were distributed to clients during the months of April and May. This was possible due to parishioner's generous gifts of time, money and food.

The Food Pantry is fortunate to have young people in our parish who volunteer during the summer. Eric Fleming is packing bags the last two weeks in June and John and Matthew Whiteman have again volunteered for the month of July. This gives our faithful baggers a vacation. Thank you John, Matthew and Eric.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to work in the Food Pantry throughout the year, please contact Sid Gardner (867-9741) to shop; Pat Stang (425-6132) to distribute bags and do minimal record keeping daily from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm; or me to bag on Tuesday or Thursday mornings. Thank you, June Pearce (484-7280)

GOING OUT TO SERVE ...PARTNERING WITH MARGARET WILLIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Margaret Willis Elementary School (MWES) is our neighbor; it is located in Haymount and serves grades K through 5. Holy Trinity has maintained a strong outreach ministry with Margaret Willis for the past several years and plans to continue for the 2015-16 school year. Our outreach activities are coordinated with the school social worker who identifies needs as well as the students/families who

can benefit from our partnership. The following are needed at the start of the school year in August:

- Back packs -- these may be gently used or new. **No rolling back backs.**
- Hand Sanitizer – 8 oz. or larger
- Pencils and pens
- Boxes of tissues (Kleenex)
- Notebooks – spiral or composition
- Specific items of school clothing – check the Margaret Willis table in the narthex in early July for more information

During the autumn months we will again have a winter coat drive for new and gently used children's coats. If your child has outgrown last year's coat, it might be perfect for a MWES student. Be on the lookout for more information about the coat drive.

You can participate in this ministry by donating needed supplies or writing a check to Holy Trinity with MWES noted on the memo line. Thank you, Barbara Brooks

Margaret Willis Appreciation Dinner

"The real heroes in the world are the men and women who stop to take the time to make a difference in the life of a child."

This was the first dinner to celebrate the success of the Pink Ladybugs and The Men of Distinction program this year and to honor the participants and the mentors, as well as the churches, organizations and individuals that made it possible. Mary Mac Shields and Nancy Broadwell attended the dinner on June 5th and represented the Holy Trinity Committee and all of you who helped in so many ways.

Impressive is too weak a word to describe the experience. The Pink Ladybugs and Men of Distinction were dressed in their Sunday best and the table manners they are learning were displayed along with the ability to have a conversation with a strange adult. There were many proud parents and mentors. The dedication of these men and women to making a difference in the lives of these girls and boys is very good news for the future, as the program is so successful it may be duplicated elsewhere. The mentors are teachers, including our school superintendent, parents, business people and policemen and women.

The attendees included a large table of police and their spouses or friends. The fact that these young people are having the police involved with them as real people who care about them means that this program and this school with its dedicated leadership and faculty are working to change relationships that can begin to change their lives.

This is a wonderful ministry for Holy Trinity, financial contributions from our parishioners helped get these programs started.

Reports and Updates

June 2015 Vestry Highlights

The Vestry meeting was held in the Vestry Room at our church on Thursday, June 18, 2015. It was not lost on those in attendance that the meeting was being held about 24 hours after the fatal shootings at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston. Both opening and closing prayers, led by Father Jeff, tried to make sense out of the senseless and render comfort to those who were grieving.

On a happier note, the Vestry meeting was held in the midst of Vacation Bible School which celebrated “God’s Critters”. Judging from the elaborate (and much photographed) staging, VBS was a smashing success, with about 70 children in attendance. Both excitement and exhaustion were present on the faces of the participants who attended the Vestry meeting. Please thank the many hands who helped with this huge endeavor, including our friends at St. John’s Episcopal Church. Please also thank the goldfish who took a week out of their busy lives in God’s service!

The Vestry approved a process for the distribution of Mayfair proceeds for now and in the future. The distribution guidelines were developed by Howard Loughlin, Tom Holt and Mary Mac Shields. If you have a worthy charity, either nationally or locally, which would like to apply for a Mayfair grant, please contact one of these individuals about the process and the qualifications needed.

The Vestry continues to explore ways to raise money to help pay the mortgage balance for our wonderful and versatile “new” worship space. Our mortgage balance is still in excess of \$1 million dollars and we would like to begin to move that balance to a more comfortable figure below the one million dollar mark. Please include this worthy goal in your discerning prayers. Kasmin Davis, Clerk



Parish Weekend at the Beach

A total of 77 Holy Trinity parishioners (55 adults, 16 youth, 5 kids and 1 infant) attended this year’s beach

weekend on Memorial Day Weekend. The weather was great and we had a wonderful time together! Thanks to everyone who pitched in to help!

Welcomers at the Point of Arrival were **Susan Stephany, Howard Loughlin** and **Jill Merrill**, who also brought the church nametags. **Robert Yoakum** set the bonfire and stayed with it while the rest of us were having dinner. After dinner, we gathered around the fire for s’mores and bobbing for apples (sent by **Louise Hall**) with s’more sticks provided by **Carmen Kelly**. We were serenaded with campfire songs sung by **Jordan Capps, Alison Jones** and **Mary Mac Shields**. **Dan Middleton** stayed to make sure the fire was out at the end of the evening.

Saturday morning started with Morning Prayer led by **David Sullivan**, and after breakfast, the smaller children were treated to a Miracle Walk led by **Wendy Hustwit** and **Jordan Capps**. Mid-morning activities included African Bible Study on the porch of the Conference Center, led by **Howard Loughlin**, and a Yoga Class in the Beach House led by **Kasmin Davis**.

After lunch on Saturday there was a new activity: a Scavenger Hunt devised by **Judy Philbrook** and **Karen Saracen**, which was won by the team of **Zoe St. Peter** and **Grace Salzberg**, who were pretty creative in finding 100% of the items.

An energetic soccer game on the field near the pavilion popped up in the early afternoon, organized by **Greg Rich** and **Judy Philbrook**.

The Ice Cream Social was hosted by **Susan Stephany, Alison Jones** and **Patricia Driscoll**, with “scoopers extraordinaire” **Jeff Jones** and **Jimmy Driscoll**. Thanks to

everybody who helped move the benches and tables afterwards to set up for Sunday morning.

The Intergenerational Dance in the Beach House on Saturday night was a lot of fun. **Ernie Suguitan** met the DJ early and helped him set up his equipment and coordinate the sound system with the karaoke machine Ernie brought from church. That karaoke machine got a lot of use as the evening wore on! The food area at the dance was managed by **Carmen Kelly**, who also led the clean-up after the dance.

Sunday morning worship on the pavilion overlooking the ocean was wonderful! Our celebrant was **The Rev. Jeff Thornberg**. **Joyce Loughlin** led the music, helped by **Kate and Mike Hudson** and **Amanda Taheri**. **Judy Philbrook** and a group of our youth sang "You are Holy" during the offertory. Lay readers (**Scott Harris, Zoe St. Peter** and **Brad Loase**) were obtained by **David Sullivan** and **Linda Braswell** and did a great job of speaking clearly above the beach sounds! The children's vignette illustrating the lectionary was led by **Mary Mac Shields, Jordan Capps** and **Alison Jones**. **Neil Bergman** wired the keyboard by going underneath the pavilion to keep the electric cord from being a hazard.

The Teen Den was monitored all weekend by **Beth Early, Karen Saracen, Amy St. Peter** and **Roya Taheri**, who also provided snacks for the teens. **Carmen Kelly** provided a sheet and colorful markers which were used all weekend to decorate the Altar cloth for Sunday morning. Babysitting was organized by **Beth Early** and **Amy St. Peter**. Babysitters were **Zoe St. Peter, Grace Salzberg, Sarah Middleton, Amanda Taheri**. Prayers before meals were organized by **JR Hustwit**. **Ernie Suguitan, Conchita Harris** and others provided photos that testify to the fun we had!

Thanks everybody for helping to make this parish beach weekend one of our very best!

If you want to be part of the fun next year, put Memorial Day Weekend on your calendar and look for registration forms in the late winter. Joyce Loughlin

PRAYER LIST



Lea Ann Allen, Baby Louisa, Ben Cashwell, Jean Canham*, Debbie Chase, Kay Grimm, Rogerline Hamlet, Irene Hathcock and Family, Beth Keeney, Terry Keith, David Kohrman, Susanne Kohrman, D. C. Mitchell, Anne Mizelle, Susan Ashley Moss, Sydney Alexandra Moss, Tara Moss, Marie Parker*, Margaret Peterson*, Paul Reichle, Jr.*, Lee and Isolene Robertson, Fr. Joe Running, Joseph Running, Sr. *, Maureen Running, Roger Scott, Phil Smith, Pat and Cheryl Spears, Tam De St. Aubin, Mary and Harold Syms*, Jimmy Teachey, Della Terrell*, Louise Walters*, Wright and Nancy Wayne, Wesley, Frank and Katherine Whaley, Our Friends at St. Joseph's *Visitation and Prayers

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

David, Jacob, Tom, Bill, Aaron, Ken, Christopher, Dan, Daryl, Kyle, Michael, Geoff, John, Leroy, Lychelle, Jake, John, Scott, Andrew, Jonathan, Brian, Oliver, Ryan, Brent, Zach, Hampton, Samuel, Ivey, Tony, Juan, Edward, Tim, Daniel, Brad, Alex, Cedric

