



Lifeline

VOLUME 14
ISSUE 4

April 2021

The Church of the Holy Trinity
An Episcopal Church
office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org



A Message from Our Rector, *Fr. Kevin M. Cross*

Resurrection

"If Christ did not rise for us, then he did not rise at all, since he had no need of it just for himself. In him the world arose, in him heaven arose, in him the earth arose. For there will be a new heaven and a new earth."

St Ambrose of Milan 370 AD

If at any time in my life I have felt the need for grace of resurrection, it is this year. I hazard to guess it might be so for many of you as well. We have lived through an entire year of walking the way of the pandemic which has felt at times like a prolonged meditation on the Passion. And yet here we are on the cusp of a liturgical and real-life resurrection. Hope is returning to world fittingly in the time of nature's resurrection. A new heaven and new earth are being born in our midst. The Easter Vigil's liturgical proclamation of light is authentically ours to proclaim this year:



*Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.
Rejoice and sing now, all around earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for the darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.
Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church,
and let your holy courts in radiant light,
resound with the praises of your people.*

These are beautiful words but if we have trouble remembering them, two hallowed expressions can speak all that really needs to be spoken. One is the sacred **Hallelujah**. The second is **Thanks be to God**. Let these words linger on your lips. Let these expressions of hope and joy fill your heart and mind in the days to come. Let us not too quickly-or ever go-back to the way things were. Instead let us approach life with renewed gratitude.

We are witnesses to a miracle. I do not use that work lightly. I do not wish to gloss over the tragedies of the pandemic. However, while the journey has seemed too long and the losses too great, the development time and degree of effectiveness of these vaccines is nothing short of miraculous. To say this takes nothing away from the triumph of our scientists and medical professionals. They are the essential vessels God has employed to bring this miracle to fruition. It is a simple statement of humility, gratitude, and truth. We have witnessed a miracle. Let the wonder of this time and the hope for the future be ground in magnificent songs of Thanks to God.



Blessings, Fr. Kev-



CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Thank you to all of the Difference program attendees. Let us use our new habits and work toward creating a kinder more tolerant world.
- Thank you to our pandemic advisory team. Your counsel has kept us safe. We look forward to your continued expert advice as we move toward a normalization of our worship, mission and fellowship activities.
- Great appreciation and gratitude to our Sunday School teachers, especially Barbara Cross who have helped our children continuing to learn about the loving ways of Jesus. And, a tremendous amount of gratitude to our Sunday School children. Your cards and projects have brought smiles and love into the hearts of our homebound and many others in this community. You have shown us the way to live.
- Thank you to Suzanne Litty and Ingird Blanton of the Flower Guild for the beauty that will grace our altar on Easter.
- Thank you to all of you who have so generously pledged to support Holy Trinity in 2021. Your contributions help make our ministry possible.
- Thank you to Barbara, Cora, Lisa, and Gordon for helping facilitate our Sunday broadcast of Holy Eucharist. Your efforts have kept us connected and enabled our communal praise of God.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Spring Clean Up

Calling all those who like to putter around the yard. Our annual Spring Clean Up of the church grounds is scheduled for Saturday April 3rd at 9:00 am. Please join us as we clean up and beautify our grounds for our Easter Service. Volunteers are asked to bring their own rakes, shears and trimmers. Please see Michelle Mactavish or Bill Ritchie if you have any questions.

LUNCH BUNCH and JUST ONCE PER YEAR TO RESUME

As you may have heard, Josh and Will Schmidt have been making food for and delivering lunch to our Lunch Bunch clients on the second Wednesday of each month. We are all so grateful and proud of them for their dedication to this mission program. Starting on March 31st, members of the Lunch Bunch team will also prepare and deliver a meal. They will continue to do so on the last Wednesday of each month until they can return to a weekly basis. The lunch provided consists of a container of freshly made soup, a hearty sandwich, a piece of fruit and a dessert item.

Just Once Per Year is our support program that provides the groceries for the Wednesday lunches. We ask each parishioner to consider participating, "just once per year" by either shopping for the groceries and dropping them off at the church by Tuesday afternoon or by providing the funding for one Wednesday lunch which comes to around \$100.00. This is managed on a quarterly basis with each individual or family signing up for their week. We ask, at this time, for you to consider renewing your support of this "hands on" mission.



WOMAN ON A JOURNEY

Women on a Journey will continue reading.....

In Search for Wisdom by Joyce Meyer

This book will take us on a journey exploring Life-Changing Truths in the Book of Proverbs

Zoom meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month

April 7th & 21st 9:00 am - 10:30 am

For more information contact Beverly Rohman at 410-829-9561 or

beverlyrohman@gmail.com

Connie's Corner



She is a grand lady, our ferry
 Welcoming all to come and be merry
 Plying her way from shore to shore
 Filling your heart to the core
 Crisp breezes, rustling water, pure air
 Mother Nature's gift, given for us to share
 Captains trained in guiding her to berth
 Happy in the wheelhouse, on water, not earth
 She glistens so shiny, so bright
 Gleaming, her heart emerging in the sunlight
 So come aboard, let your troubles drift away
 As we glide peacefully over the water everyday.

Written by Connie Greenhawk

You can't go back and change the beginning but
 you can start where you are and change the ending. C.S. Lewis

Keep your face always toward the sunshine—and
 shadows will fall behind you.

It is during our darkest moments that we must focus
 on the light.

Your best teacher is your last mistake.

God is here, always deep in our soul
 Blessing us, loving us, making us whole
 He gave His life upon that cross
 A humanly life freely given, not His loss
 He dwells in His Father's house
 Spreading the Word, direct from His mouth
 He is with you each and every day
 Guiding you, leading you, showing you the way
 To your salvation, to your peace
 Follow Him, never letting your love cease
 And with His love, His unending gift
 We will find peace in our lives as we drift
 Upon this earth until we drift no more
 And are welcomed in Heaven, safe on shore.

Written by Connie Greenhawk

If you would like to submit a favorite saying or
 thought, email to Connie at
office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Introduction.

In spite of the prolonged Covid 19 epidemic we have managed to complete routine maintenance, work through the diminishing list of deferred maintenance, and in particular enhance the functionality of the church as a safe meeting place as we adapt to the new realities of the current and future epidemics.

I appreciate continued support and guidance of the Vestry, the Senior Warden and in particular our Rector, Kevin, all of whom have a clear vision of the importance of maintaining the church in advancing its mission in these trying times. I also have welcomed the help of Michelle MacTavish who has a particular interest and talents in managing the Church Grounds and cover for my absences.

We have completed several Projects this year.

- HVAC enhancement. New high grade air filters and UV lights have been installed in the HVAC systems of the Church and Hall together with several free standing HEPA filtration units. Repairs were needed in the Parish Hall HVAC system as significant airflow obstruction was uncovered in the air supply. We now have a state of the art HVAC filtration system which will maximize cleansing the circulating air in the Church, Parish Hall and Offices to minimize infection exposure and maximize personal safety during the current pandemic and future epidemics. At the same time we have managed to stabilize the humidity requirements needed to maintain the organ in optimal condition.
- The "hazardous to your health" Rectory brick walkway has been repaired by Brad Duncan who has completed much of the other brick and stonework around the Church.
- A new Church Driveway Sign Board has been designed with the help of Cameron MacTavish and installed.
- The Church roof ridge metal cap has been replaced with the appropriate Copper ridge and this will not only enhance the appearance of the Church but add significantly to the longevity of the slate roof. We are very fortunate to have had the services of a talented Welsh slater - Tim Underhill of Delta Slate Company.
- Significant tree work has been needed recently to address ageing, lightning and wind damaged trees. Two trees have been taken down in the front of the Rectory adjacent to the neighboring property. Repair work was also needed to a damaged tree in the Columbarium. A further lightning damaged tree adjacent to Caroline Street in front of the Church is scheduled to be removed. We are working with the Town Office to select suitable replacement trees.

Sunday School

The Sunday school children have once again been busy making cards to send to those receiving Lunch Bunch and to some parishioners. Below are examples of the St. Patrick's day and Easter cards that they created, in addition to the craft. They are truly showing God's love. We have received many calls and notes of appreciation.

We will wind up this year of Sunday School by meeting to discuss how to spend the money you have generously donated during our Lenten Change for Change project. In next month's Lifeline we will report on the project. Thank you all for your support.
Barbara Cross



Difference; The Power of Faith in a Conflicted World

In a conflicted and hurting world, many of us long for our faith to have a positive impact, but in the messiness of life it can be hard to know where to start. We believe that God is in the business of restoring brokenness and transforming relationships, and that we are called to take part. Archbishop Justin Welby brought together leading peacemaking thinkers and practitioners to create a 5-session course to help us encounter others well, cross divides, and see society transformed. During Lent a group of 24 of us gathered each Tuesday evening to go on this journey. The journey we took explored what it means to follow Jesus in the face of conflict and see transformation through everyday encounters. Each week we considered a real-life example of people dealing with the challenge of differences and also an example from Scripture illustrating how Jesus handled a similar challenge. We engaged in discussion, practices, and meditation seeking to acquire new skills and new approaches to facilitate good discussions. It was a good journey. One we hope will help us overcome the divides we face in daily life so that we see the face of God in each person we meet.

Come Join Our Summer Choir!

Anyone who likes to sing is welcome - no experience necessary

Great opportunity to meet fun people and have a great time!

Rehearsals will begin mid-April in a safe environment

Please contact Cora at 410-726-2088 or corabruner60@gmail.com

ECW PLANT SALE RE-IMAGINED!



Spring is here! Please support our Mission efforts with this year's ECW Plant Sale – Re-Imagined for your safety!

Pre-sale orders ONLY for Geraniums, Impatiens, Non-Stop Begonias and Hanging Baskets

Pre-Order Form included with this edition of Lifelines.

Orders due by April 12th Pick-up on Saturday, April 24th from 9:00 am– 4:00 pm

Questions? Please contact Beverly Rohman at beverlyrohman@gmail.com or 410-829-9561

All proceeds go to support Local Missions!

Please Pass the Word! Share this flyer and the Pre-Order Form with Family and Friends via email!

2021 Plant Sale at Holy Trinity Church

GERANIUMS ~ BEGONIAS ~ IMPATIENS ~ BASKETS

Pre-order / Pre-paid Option Only by April 12, 2021

PLEASE NOTE: Some costs may be higher than previous years due to COVID and availability.

Your Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone #: _____ (Must be included!)

GERANIUMS

Size	Red	Pink	White	Lavender	Peach	Salmon	Cost per	Total Cost
4.5"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$8.00	_____
6"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$12.00	_____
8"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$22.00	_____
10"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$30.00	_____
12"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$34.00	_____
14"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$55.00	_____

14" plants will come in lovely plastic terra cotta pots with dracaena spike and vine

NON-STOP BEGONIAS

Size	Red	Pink	White	Lavender	Peach	Salmon	Cost per	Total Cost
4.5"	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$9.00	_____

SUN IMPATIENS

Size	Red	Pink	White	Lavender	Cost per	Total Cost
6"	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$10.00	_____

HANGING BASKETS *Select from Large Assortment at Pick-up*

Size		Cost per	Total Cost
10"	Varieties of Containers, Flowers & Colors	\$30.00	_____
12"	Varieties with Coco Mats & Moss	\$42.00	_____

Grand Total _____

To place an order: 1) Complete this form and send along with your **check payable to ECW** or **credit card** information to the address below. **DO NOT SEND TO THE CHURCH!**

PRE-ORDERS ONLY – CURBSIDE PICK-UP -- April 24, 2021 -- 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Orders are considered complete when you receive an email confirmation.

Beverly Rohman, ECW Treasurer
28708 Hope Circle Easton, MD 21601

Questions? Assistance? Special Needs? Call Beverly (410-829-9561) beverlyrohman@gmail.com

THANK YOU! ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT LOCAL MISSIONS!

Oxford Community Art Installation.

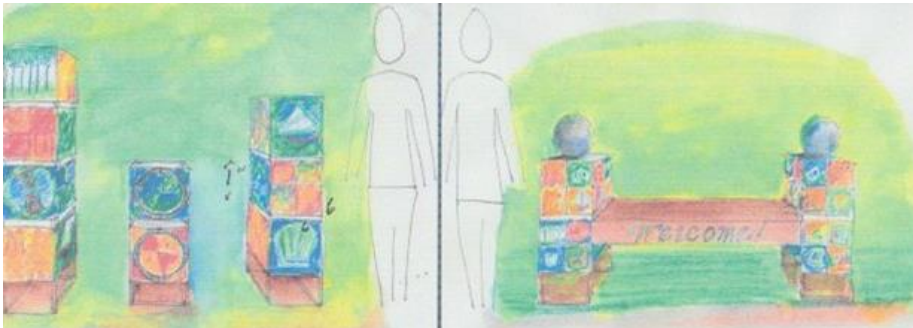
Fun Project: Anyone interested Call the office.

The Intent:

"To create a welcoming beacon at the Oxford Community Center, built together by people of all ages, from Oxford and neighboring communities. Our intent is to illuminate and celebrate "Our diverse world". The art installation will serve as an inviting, welcoming area for gathering or peaceful contemplation for all who visit the space."

This project is presented in part by the Talbot County Arts Council with funds from the Maryland State Arts Council.

The Oxford Community Center (OCC) is launching a Community Art Project and is requesting involvement by the various Community Groups in Oxford including Holy Trinity Church. The plan is to build a "Welcoming Beacon" which would be placed at the west end of the OCC front lawn visible to all entering and leaving Oxford that reflects our strong appreciation of our Community.



Volunteer groups will be guided by an OCC staff member who will explore with the group what is important to them about their community and help them develop art work that reflects this. Painting materials will be provided. There will be benches, "totem poles", and cubes and numerous 6" square tiles to paint. The tiles will be integrated into the larger items which will be placed outside to create a welcoming beacon.



Holy Trinity's team is scheduled for Wednesday, April 14th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Please call the parish office to sign up. 410-226-5134



Spring Service Plans

We wish to provide you with a brief update on our plans for regathering. On Monday, March 8, our Pandemic Advisory Team met to discuss the current state of the pandemic with a particular focus on our local conditions. The good news is that although the caseload is still high, the cases are trending downward. This is thought to be mainly the result of the adherence to safe practices. However, the greater availability of the vaccinations should also be a major contributing factor toward a downward trend in the weeks to come.

The overall approach for our regathering plan is to slowly progress toward a normalization of services and a gradual re-opening of the parish hall.

The key components of our plan:

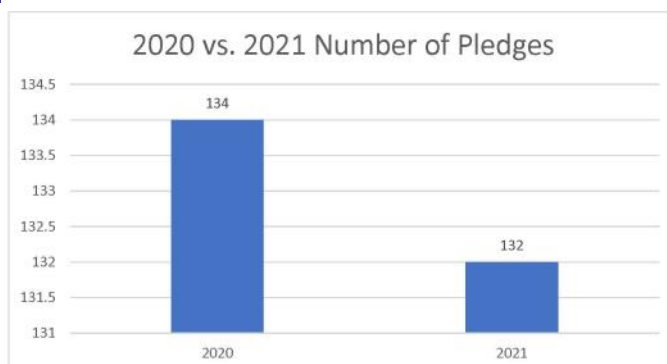
- **Broadcasts:** The broadcast of services is now part of the norm for our services. As we implement a return to in-person services, whether we are hosting our services outdoors or indoors, participating via the broadcasts will continue to be available to you.
- **Through Holy Week** services will remain broadcast only.
- **Easter Sunday** we will resume our outdoor services (weather permitting). Contact tracing, masking, and social distancing will be required. Note: Our plan is to continue to offer a weekly outdoor service through late fall, weather permitting, as so many of you have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Holy Eucharist surrounded by the beauty of nature. As mentioned above, this service will also be also available through broadcast.
- **Indoor Services:** We hope to resume hosting an indoor service in mid to late April. These services will require us to limit the capacity of attendees until such restrictions are no longer advised by the CDC. Pre-registration, contact tracing, masks, and social distancing will be required. These services will also be broadcast.
- **Parish Hall:** We plan to gradually reopen the hall for small group activities. We are pleased that the first group to resume will be the Lunch Bunch who will prepare a meal on the last Wednesday of each month. This meal will be in addition to the Schmidts preparing a meal on the second Wednesday of the month. Our commitment as followers of Jesus is servanthood so it is appropriate that our resumption of hall activity is focused on mission work.
- **Please note** Our ability to move toward in-person regathering is dependent on the continuation of the downward trend in cases. Our pandemic advisory team will continue to monitor the state of the pandemic and make appropriate recommendations for your safety in the months ahead. We are blessed to have such a talented group among us.

Additional information will follow as we move forward.

ANNUAL APPEAL – Your 2021 pledge as we safely remain **“Socially distant, spiritually connected!”**

Please remember to return your Pledge Card.

On behalf of the Church of the Holy Trinity, thank you for your support. Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs, Sandy & Ron Kaufman, and Earl Segal





410.226.5134
Oxford, MD 21654-0387
PO Box 387

The Church of the Holy Trinity



Lifeline

MISSION

The Church of The Holy Trinity, an Episcopal Parish in Oxford, Maryland: a caring Christian community dedicated to growing in God's love through worship, study, service and fellowship.

Who We Are

We are a small parish with a big heart comprised of committed people willingly sharing their talents to help those in need.

We are all seekers on a spiritual journey; encouraging of others also on the journey, and non-judgmental of where one might be on that journey.



A meaningful life

is not being rich, being popular, being highly educated, or being perfect. It's about being real, being humble, being able to share ourselves and touch the lives of others.

