



Lifeline

VOLUME 16
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February 2023

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church
office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org



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





CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Thank you to our Souper Men and Women: Larry Paz, Bob Hyberg, Jim Foster, Lee Walker, Steve Wiesenberger & Dennis Roberts; our Delivery Angels: Lee Philips, Bill Myers, Mickey Terrone, Steve & Jan Wiesenberger, Ray & Linda Sattler, Steve Walk and the Oxford Garden Club. The Lunch Bunch provides physical and spiritual nourishment to the home bound in Oxford and Trappe.
- Thank you to Corrie James, Susie Wheeler and all of the painters of Empty Bowls. We donated 42 bowls to help with hunger relief in Talbot County.
- Thank you to Heather Pusey for volunteering to deliver our Food Pantry donations.
- Appreciation to Bill Ritchie and Michelle Mactavish for reorganizing our storage in the parish hall.
- A musical note of appreciation to Cora for planning the music and coordinating with David Hasek for our worship music during her absence for knee surgery.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Daughters of the King

Daughters of the King: next meeting date is Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 at 10:30 am, in the Parish Hall and via Zoom if requested.

Deacon Lisa's Amazing Sabbatical Hike



It's sabbatical time! The word sabbatical came from the same root as the word Sabbath - to rest. I will be resting from my normal duties in March and April, but I'll be plenty active in other ways. My Aunt Nan and I plan to hike the Arizona Trail. Officially it is called the Arizona National Scenic Trail, and its website calls it a complete non-motorized path, stretching 800 diverse miles across Arizona from Mexico to Utah. We have been dreaming about this for several years, and finally were able to put a date to it to make it a plan. It is way out of my comfort zone, which is part of the draw. Arizona's beauty has long captivated me, and the chance to be out in it for an extended time is something I can't pass up. I will miss all of you. But I anticipate that I will return refreshed, after having spent a lot of time with God. You can follow our journey on the website trailjournals.com - more details to come. I will see you on Feb 19th for Transfiguration Sunday, then I'll say hi from the trail!

Connie's Corner



Today I am going to change the world. I am going to make it a safer place, a more hopeful place, than when I awoke this morning. By sunset I will have done all I can to bring love to this small corner of the universe that has been entrusted to me. I will be mindful of all I can do to help and heal where I live, praying that others are doing the same where they live. Together, we will change the world.—Steven Charleston

“Learn as if you will live forever, live like you will die tomorrow.” — Mahatma Gandhi

“The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.”
— Winston Churchill

“The elevator to success is out of order. You'll have to use the stairs, one step at a time.” — Joe Girard

“Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day.” — Dalai Lama

“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving.” —Albert Einstein

“Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.” — Confucius

“Written by Connie Greenhawk

Daffodils are beginning to come through the ground
Do you think they want to see God's beauty that is all around

Have you taken the time to see
How glorious and wonderful this earth can be
God gave us all the tools for peace and love
Can you hear Him whispering in your ear like the coo
of a dove

He gave us His son to wash away the sin
His tears must be the sorriest there ever has been
His pain more than we could ever feel
That mankind was so cruel, so unreal
And still He believes in mankind and what we can do
All of His blessings can and should fill your heart too
So as you walk the path of life
Live God's word and you will have no strife.

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

Today I am Going to Change the World

In a recent sermon I tried to develop a deeper understanding of Joseph. After all, he is a central figure in our faith story. Yet he is someone we know very little about. When we read Scripture, we can try to imagine what it was like to be in shoes of Joseph or even the prophets, Mary, the apostles, Paul... Yet our imaginings and their real-life experiences are separated by a great chasm of time. While we are similar in many ways, our imaginings of their lives and our life experiences are far apart from theirs.

However, we too, like these models of faith, are asked to make choices in our lives that can seem overwhelming. These challenges may seem to be on a level beyond our capabilities. Let's face it, God does not often ask us to make simple, logical choices. Joseph's choice was one of faith and trust. It was a choice that had to be based on believing what was to be, not simply what was. Jesus always created quite an uproar during his lifetime, even as a baby, He upset the status quo. And thus Joseph, gentle, kind Joseph was asked to make a momentous decision that would affect the history of the world.

Today our faith asks us daily to take up seemingly insurmountable challenges. We are often asked to take actions that seem illogical to the world. In a world ruled by logic who can possibly take seriously efforts to eliminate poverty, feed the hungry, and end war? These all seem like impossible dreams. Yet are such actions illogical? They are certainly daunting in their hopefulness. Yet, in the life of Jesus, we see one who against all earthly odds, did indeed change the world just as He continues to change it today.

The point is that we all have difficult work ahead of us. It is not enough to carry faith in Christ within us. We must be transformed as Joseph, Mary, and the apostles changed when they consciously make efforts to actualize God's kingdom. A world where love, peace, and justice would reign. The kind of personal change that is needed is not small. It is big, daunting, and seemingly impossible. It just does not happen, but it is driven by agents of change. The apostles experienced a change in the way they thought about themselves as they responded to the universal call of Christ. Jesus' ministry introduced a new way of faith and action. Jesus was the original agent of change in this ever evolving transformation of hearts and minds. Jesus passed the responsibility for being such a force for change on to ordinary people like Joseph and later the apostles and from them onward to us today.

Our inspiration today remains the same as for them. Jesus. Jesus did not hold himself above humanity. The Son of God plunged into the waters of the Jordan and in doing so showed the desire of God to be one with us - in this new covenant there would be no walls between God and his people and there are to be no walls between the people of God. We come together in the body of Christ. In the end, good people, it comes down to opening our ears, eyes, and hearts to hear the proclamation of our faith. It is up to us today to follow the example of Joseph and countless others to change the world. Yes, it is an awesome challenging task. Yet we can rise to the occasion. Joseph and our ancestors in this faith have shown us what we all capable of becoming and doing. This is all possible because as Jesus, our God proclaims to us *"You are my children. You are my beloved and with you I am well pleased."*

"Today I am going to change the world. I am going to make it a safer place, a more hopeful place, than when I awoke this morning. By sunset I will have done all I can to bring love to this small corner of the universe that has been entrusted to me. I will be mindful of all I can do to help and heal where I live, praying that others are doing the same where they live. Together, we will change the world." - **The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston**

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Milestones

Baptism	Passed	Passed	Passed
Anne Beckwith Parker	Ellen Anderson	Nancy Travers	Olivia Moaney
Passed	Sarah Hughes	Nancy Wroten	
Jean Hemphill	Berry Passano	Bob Swoyer	



Last fall, Fr. Kevin forwarded an article published in the Diocese Newsletter, which briefly stated that two Ukrainian women were coming to Easton, sponsored by Ad Duer, a resident of the Shireton in Easton. The co-author of the article was Rich O'Brien, a friend of Ad's and mine from Talbot Country Club. Seeing the article prompted me to call Rich to see how I may help. That call led to meeting with Ad and Rich and learning more about Inge and her daughter, Yana, from Vinnytsia. Before the Russian invasion, Ad had traveled to Ukraine to consider teaching English there. While traveling, he met Yana. He returned to the US and had put any consideration of working in Ukraine on hold.

Last April, Ad was contacted by Yana who asked if he would sponsor her and her mother to come to the US under the federal Uniting for Ukraine program. He responded affirmatively and began the process of qualifying as a sponsor. Meanwhile, the ladies got their vaccinations and applied to come to the US on the 2-year parole program. After the usual administrative processes, the ladies arrived at Dulles on Monday, October 24; Ad transported them to Easton, where Rich had secured a 2-bedroom apartment, through Talbot Interfaith Shelter, located across from the Exxon station near the intersection of Port and Washington Streets. Rich and Ad found the apartment to be less than attractive, so they painted it completely to give it a fresh look. They went to St. Vincent DePaul and secured a few additional items to augment the furnishings in the apartment. When the ladies arrived, they were very pleased and grateful for all that had been provided for them.

I met Yana and Inge with Ad and Rich in my office in early November. Inge is a 58-year-old widow of thirteen years and an artist who speaks no English. Her daughter, Yana, is a 25-year-old barista, bartender and aspiring film director who is fluent in English. She told stories of bombs falling around them, of 25 dead after the first bombing and of running to bomb shelters whenever the alarms sounded. It is no wonder that she and her mother were quite frightened when emergency vehicles and fire alarms went off in Easton one night last fall. Inga has been introduced at the Academy of Art and to several artists in Easton, who have provided her materials and welcomed her into the community. Both are employed at a gluten-free bakery in St. Michaels. Inge has her Ukraine driver's license and is about to qualify for a Maryland license, which will allow the ladies to be less reliant on others to take them to work and elsewhere. All seems to be going very well.

Ad and Rich have been soliciting some very willing and generous friends who have contributed \$15,000 to support the ladies. Holy Trinity, as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, has been receiving the contributions and disburses the funds to be used for rent, utilities, food, etc. Thus far, neither Holy Trinity nor our parishioners have been asked to provide financial support, though such support is always welcome. The ladies receive a federal stipend of \$666 monthly and are being paid for their work in the bakery, so they are not consuming the funds at a very rapid rate. Time will tell how soon they may become completely financially independent. When they do, we will be prepared to support the other immigrants from Ukraine to arrive in Easton. The immediate need will be for a reliable vehicle, so let us know if you are aware of one which can be purchased at a reasonable cost. We hope that Yana and Inge will join us for a coffee hour soon.

In the photo, Inge is on the left, Yana on the right and Gerri Leder, a parishioner at Christ's Church Easton, in the center. Gerri has taken the ladies under her wings and provides them a female perspective on life in America; she has been a saint. She and her husband took the ladies on a trip to New York to show them life in the Big Apple. Once again, our little parish has found a way to reach out and serve others.

Gordon D Fronk



Food Pantry

We have resumed our weekly collection for our community Food Pantries. We ask you to remember there are many in our community who are food deprived. Please join our effort when you are shopping for your groceries. If we all buy an extra can or box of food, we can have a tremendous impact on the needs of our community. There is a shopping cart and baskets in our Parish House set up for collection of food items. Heather Pusey has volunteered to take the food items to the pantries in Easton on a regular basis.

As we know, "it is more blessed to give than to receive." Thank you for your generosity

Educational Section

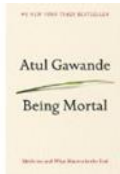
Harriet Tubman: The Chosen One

Sunday, March 5th after our 9:30 service.

March 10th is the 100th anniversary of Harriet Tubman's death. This day has been designated as a feast day in the church. Our bishop has asked all parishes to plan an observance of this historic date commemorating this eastern heroine. On Sunday, March 5th following the 9:30 am service we will experience a dramatic reenactment of Harriet's life, Harriet Tubman: The Chosen One. Gwendolyn Briley-Strand has performed as a professional actor on stage, television and film for over 30 years. On September 24, 2016, Ms. Briley-Strand was given the honor of introducing then President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush at the grand opening of the African American Museum of History and Culture in Washington D.C. She is also the President and CEO of See the Fruits, Inc. a company which uses the Arts to teach American History. This performance is particularly notable as it brings to light the relationship of Harriet's faith to her actions. Note: This performance will be broadcast in the parish hall. A discussion will follow the presentation with Gwendolyn and her Husband Edward. This event is sponsored and hosted by Oxford's churches: The Church of the Holy Trinity, Oxford United Methodist Church and Waters United Methodist Church.



WOMAN ON A JOURNEY



Starting in February, we will be reading the acclaimed book by surgeon and best-selling author, Dr. Atul Gawande (2014)

Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End

An insight into coping with the realities of aging and the notion that medicine can comfort and enhance our experience for a good life and good end. Using this knowledge to brighten our every day with purpose...and faith.

Come join us! We are meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Meetings are held in the Parish Hall and also via Zoom

February 1st & 15th – 9:00 am – 10:30 am

For more information contact Beverly Rohman at 410-829-9561 or beverlyrohman@gmail.com

SHROVE TUESDAY COMMUNITY PANCAKE SUPPER

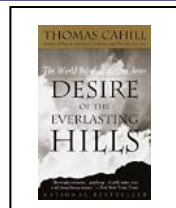
Tuesday, February 21, at 5:00 pm

At The Church of the Holy Trinity



Sponsored by the Oxford Churches
as a fund raiser for local food relief

~free will offering accepted at the door~



Inquiring Believers

The Men's Bible Study group, also known as the Inquiring Believers, meets every Monday from 5:00 – 6:00 pm at the Parish House enjoying fellowship and snacks while discussing the latest assignment. Our goal is to learn more about the Bible and Biblical times through reading, reflecting, and asking questions. Scholars we are not.

Our next study is of the book **Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before and After Jesus** by Thomas Cahill. We welcome all new members. No prior experience or knowledge necessary, just an interest in learning more about the Bible. If you are interested in learning more, call Ray Munsch at (215) 356-2481.

Educational Section



CALLING ALL WOMEN AND MEN OF HOLY TRINITY! PLANT SALE LEADERS NEEDED!

In coordination with Oxford Day - **Saturday, April 22, 2023** – Holy Trinity's Plant Sale will be in full swing, with proceeds benefiting the local charities supported by this effort. **This is one of the two big fundraising events coordinated by the women of Holy Trinity, and supported by many men of the church.**

This year, we are looking for **two leaders** to help us continue this event:

- **We need one leader to organize volunteers** for unloading the truck, organizing the plants, setting up tables, and re-loading the truck at the end of the sale. We have had many volunteers supporting this effort in the past, and the coordination effort is well documented. This leader can use existing email templates, schedules, and volunteer lists, all of which have been saved.

- **We need a second co-leader to support and "shadow" the work being done by Beverly Rohman**, working with her to meet with Robin's Nest to select and arrange for plant delivery, update and mail the pre-order form for church members, and receive and track pre-order payments and sales on the day of the sale. This leader will have the benefit of working with a seasoned co-leader who has done this for years, creating a work-share model that will support leaders of this event for years to come.

This is a great chance to use your leadership skills without making a year-long commitment! Most of the work is completed over a month's period, and you'll be well supported by those who have been doing it for years, and by the many volunteers who "know the drill!"

We're counting on a few good women and men to step up to the challenge! Email Beverly Rohman (beverlyrohman@gmail.com) or Sandy Kaufman (sandykaufman1@aol.com) to express your interest in either of these leadership roles.

Thank you!

Beverly Rohman & Sandy Kaufman

Sunday School

Change for Change

Each year during Lent, the Sunday School children collect change which they then use to purchase items for those in need. Hence the name Change for Change YOUR participation is vital to this project. Many of you save your change throughout the year and put it in the buckets when we start collecting it during Lent. Many of you also contribute dollars and checks and they are also gratefully received! Please look for the Change for Change buckets at the back of the church and in the Parish Hall on Sundays during Lent. We appreciate your participation!

We will continue weaving what life was like for Jesus growing up (What did he eat? What did he play with? What did his house look like? Did he go to school?) in our stories about Jesus.

During February we will focus on the two greatest commandments - Love God and Love one another. Every year we spend time on these commandments because just imagine what this world would be like if we all followed these commandments. When we make decisions, we just have to ask ourselves if we are following these two commandments. We will have a special project to go along with this project and it will be shared with others. Hint: it is heart shaped.

Sunday School meets the second and fourth Sundays of the month during the 10:00 service. We start out in the Parish Hall where we have a prayer thanking God, then a Bible Story, and a project. We then join our parish family in church during the peace and gather around the altar for communion.

If you have any questions, just contact the church office and leave a message for Barbara. Thank you.



Educational Section



Dear Friends,

February 14 – February 17, 2023, we will have our classes in church flower arranging. You may sign up for either the Tuesday/Thursday (February 14th and February 16th) or for the Wednesday/Friday (February 15th and February 17th) flower arranging classes.

From 10:00 to 12:00 noon each of the two days, you will attend a flower demonstration in Bethlehem Chapel in the Cathedral. From 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., you will have a workshop and critique.

We ask that everyone bring a bag lunch and a beverage. Also be sure to bring a camera. Clippers will be provided. These classes are designed for beginners as well as for more advanced arrangers. The cost of two full course days is \$375.00. At the end of each session you will take your flowers, containers, and clippers home with you.

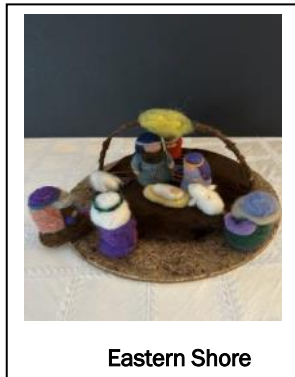
If you wish to enroll in these sessions, please complete the registration form on back of calendar and send it with your payment to the Washington National Cathedral Flower Guild. Upon our receipt of your registration you will receive acceptance and further instructions about your time with us. Space is limited and you are encouraged to return your application with payment (check made payable to Washington National Cathedral Altar Guild) as quickly as possible. We regret that calling the Flower Guild office will not facilitate the acceptance process.

We hope you can join us.

Sincerely,

Linda Roecklein Flower Guild and Altar Guild Coordinator

Rectory Open House Creche Exhibition Sunday February 5th 10:30 – 12:00 noon



Eastern Shore



Tanzania



Cambodia

Barbara has collected creches for almost 40 years. Her extensive collection of creches are from every corner of the world. This year Barbara has them all on display at the Rectory. We invite you to come and see these incredible works of religious art. On Sunday, February 5th after our 9:30 am service we are hosting an open house at the rectory from 10:30 – 12:00 noon. Please note that we are requesting you to wear a mask while in the rectory for everyone's safety. Refreshments will be available at a fellowship hour at the parish hall. You are invited to come right over to the rectory before or after having some fellowship time and refreshments in the hall. While in the hall, the Sunday School has a special project celebrating God's love and needs your help. The children will be sending fleece prayer hearts to those in need. We need your help cutting them out. Sandy Wrightson will have 3x4 inch squares for you to cut out some hearts. If you have scissors you can bring that would be great. If not, we will have some extra. There will be time for refreshments, cutting out some hearts, and viewing the crèches in whatever order you choose!



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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.

Service Schedule is as follows:

Sunday Holy Eucharist Services are held 8:00 am and 10:00 am. On the first Sunday of every month a combined service at 9:30 am. All services are in-person and broadcast

Sunday School is held the second and fourth Sundays at 10:00 am