



Lifeline

VOLUME 16
ISSUE 4

April 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

- **Much gratitude to all the cooks, setter uppers, clean uppers and Trivia aficionados** who helped us have fun raising awareness and funds for Mission work.
- **Thank to Stephen Wiesenberg** for identifying the need to replace the floor bumpers of the pews and then quietly doing it! You are the best Stephen!
- **Thank you to our greeters, readers, ushers, Altar Guild and Flower Guild** for all they do to make our worship services reverent and vibrant.
- **Thank you to David Hasek** for offering his music talents to our services during Cora's absence. David, you are part of our family.
- **We give thanks for Cora's** having a successful operation and we offer much gratitude for her enhancing our worship with music.
- **Thank you to all the volunteers and participants** at our fun Trivia and Lasagna Mission Fundraiser. Trivia question: Who hosts the best Trivia events? Holy Trinity!
- **Thank you to Mary Beth Guerrieri** for providing wonderfully delicious homemade frozen meals for our home-bound friends each month.
- **Thank you to Bill Ritchie and Stephen Wiesenberg** for repairing the rectory fence. A job well done!

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Meet, Greet and a Treat

Back in the good old days, before Covid, new members of Holy Trinity were welcomed with a get together where they could meet each other and learn about all that is Holy Trinity. The church also would periodically host an event that was dedicated to having fun and enjoying fellowship with your fellow church members.

Now lets make up for lost time! Everyone in the Holy Trinity family is invited to an **ice cream social Sunday April 30, 2023, at 3:30 on the rectory lawn.**

Catch up with old friends and meet new members all the while enjoying some tasty ice cream and the spectacular view of the river. What a deal! One you can't lick or can you?



Connie's Corner



"Happiness is the only thing that multiplies when you share it."—Albert Schweitzer

"Fairy tales are more than true: not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten."—Neil Gaiman

"In a gentle way, you can shake the world."
—Mahatma Gandhi

"Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein." —H. Jackson Brown Jr.

"Don't quit yet, the worst moments are usually followed by the most beautiful silver linings. You have to stay strong, remember to keep your head up and remain hopeful." —Unknown

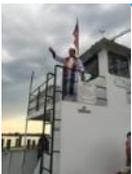
"Written by Connie Greenhawk"

Music, it touches your soul
Soothing, calming, making you whole
The world revolves around so many things
And most of them joy is what it brings
Just like God who brings you light
Trusting your path will always be right
Take His hand, let Him into your heart
And to that heart, let His arrow of love dart
Turning any darkness into a ray of hope
Guiding you, teaching you how to cope
Let His angels surround you with love
For truly, it is a gift from above.

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

See back of calendar for
Holy Week Events

Ferry Blessing Friday, April 21 at 6:00 pm



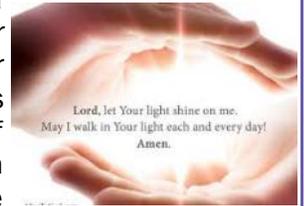
The annual Blessing of the Oxford Ferry will take place on Friday, April 21st at 6:00 pm. Fr. Kevin has promised a blessing to ward off the engine problems, ensure smooth seas, and beautiful sails. The blessing will be followed by a pot-luck reception. Come and enjoy this annual kick off to the summer season and Oxford Day.

What is your vision for the church?

“What you do in the present—by painting, preaching, singing, sewing, praying, teaching, building hospitals, digging wells, campaigning for justice, writing poems, caring for the needy, loving your neighbor as yourself—will last into God’s future. These activities are not simply ways of making the present life a little less beastly, a little more bearable, until the day when we leave it behind altogether. They are part of what we may call building for God’s kingdom.”

— N.T. Wright, **Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church**

My vision for the church, enthusiastically embraces our responsibility as followers of Jesus Christ to teach, model, and inspire the love and mercy of God in ourselves, our congregations, and the world beyond the boundaries of church and diocese. Amidst the divisiveness of today’s world, the church is called to be a source of hope and reconciliation. Jesus proclaimed, *“You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”* **Matthew 5:14-16** The darkness of divisiveness is ever present in today’s world. Jesus calls the church to be a change agent, transforming the darkness of division into the light of peace and harmony. Together we can shed light on the goodness of God. Just as the mirror in a lighthouse projects light to guide ships safely home, we can be mirrors of Christ’s light. The light of Christ can banish the darkness of the world and illuminate the way toward creating a glimpse of God’s kingdom here on earth. We can be the change.



Lord, let Your light shine on me.
May I walk in Your light each and every day!
Amen.

To be the change God calls us to be, we must develop strong spiritual core. I can think of no better way to do so than by following this advice from Choctaw elder and Bishop, Steven Charleston.

“I take out the garbage. I clean the toilets. I cook the meals. When do I have time to lead a spiritual life? The answer: when I take out the garbage, when I clean the toilets, when I cook the meals. My culture is well known for blending spirituality with reality. Strive to be aware of the holy in the most mundane of things and you will see it open up before you: the everyday is the abode of the eternal.”

The church is not defined or confined by the walls of the building. Church is the people of God going forth into the world to bring God’s kingdom in the here and now. As our brother St. Francis exhorted us: *“Preach the gospel always. Only use words when necessary.”*

Let our daily lives: actions and words, preach the gospel of love forgiveness and mercy. We can bring light and life to the world.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

The Musings of Your Senior Warden

Not one known for serious contemplation, it is as much a surprise to me as I am sure it is to you, that I find myself relating some serious thoughts I had on Sunday, March 5 at our church.

The service was a delightful gathering of Holy Trinity, Waters Methodist and Oxford United Methodist Church congregations and clergy. An excellent sermon urged us to get up and move - to strengthen our faith and move to make the world a better place. After the service, in the parish hall, a dramatic reenactment of Harriet Tubman’s life was screened. The one woman show performed by Gwendolyn Briley-Strand was outstanding. While I had read about Ms. Tubman and even seen a similar show, this production with its excellent script, staging and acting made the inspiring life of this woman so real.

Talk about moving! While her life started out having to endure the worst of man’s inhumanity to man, she made her mark when she could take no more and fled to freedom. From there she could not stay still and led others to freedom and in the ways of freedom.

Now for the long awaited musings. After watching this show my thoughts travelled to of all things - holidays. Those who know me will guess that I was thinking of summer and Memorial Day or July fourth, but no I thought of Thanksgiving of all things.

I was so thankful to Fr. Cross for organizing the service and procuring the video that made my day so special. March 17 marked the thirteenth anniversary of Fr. Kevin’s arrival here at Holy Trinity. Over those thirteen years our church has grown in all the good ways. Tireless in his service to our church and the congregation we have more members, a happy congregation, a modern broadcast system that allows all to share the services and meeting, an active and generous mission status, a servant to the town of Oxford, a friend to the sick and sad, Barbara’s Sunday School, an increased endowment and a friendly face and heart to greet us each Sunday morning. Who can ask for more?

Please join me in thanking Fr. Kevin for all his efforts the next time you see him even if Thanksgiving is many months away.

Tot O’Mara
Senior Warden



Trivia and Meals for Mission

On Friday, March 24th the hall was filled with sounds of laughter and cheer as we shared a great lasagna meal and played Trivia. The trivia teams were up to their best competing hotly for the title of champ. The contest ended with three teams tied for first. The evening was also a win for two local resources: **Conor's project** – a program that teaches children how to swim which is administered through the Critchlow Atkins Centers and the **Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center**, which will celebrate their tenth anniversary in April having provided life giving services to over 6300 clients. Over \$1500 was raised to be split between these two vital organizations. Thank you to all. Trivia at Holy Trinity is the best!

Disaster Relief Donations

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.” Matthew 25:40

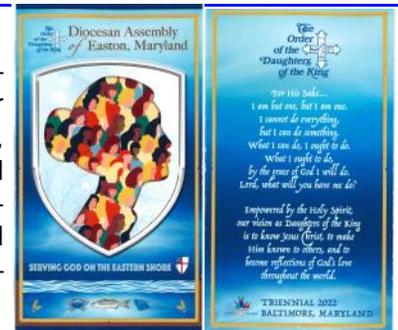
The recent tornadoes in the South resulted in a great loss of life. We hold in prayer those who have lost family and friends. Entire towns were wiped off the map and livelihoods destroyed. It is daunting to even conceive of the degree of recovery that is needed these communities in Mississippi and elsewhere in the South. Several of you, good people, have contacted the office asking to have an opportunity to contribute to a relief fund to help our brothers and sisters in need. We area mission shaped church and in response, a disaster relief fund has been set up to receive such funds. You may send a check made out to The Church of the Holy Trinity with **“tornado relief”** noted on the memo line. The mission team will ensure these donations are directed to the most appropriate and responsive relief organizations. Please also note that the mission team recently sent \$5000 in relief aid for the earthquake recovery efforts in Turkey and Syria. Thank you and bless you for your compassionate generosity.

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of The King is an International Prayer group of Christian Women. We trust and believe in miracles and the power of prayer. Our local chapter at the Church of the Holy Trinity is devoted to keeping those in need of guidance, direction, or other specific needs in our Daily Prayers. If you have a concern and would like our group to pray for you or on behalf of another, please contact Sharon Paz at justsha33@gmail.com. Some people prefer that their prayers be held confidentially which we do. As strong believers in prayer, we are also co-sponsoring Father Kevin's class **“GOD ON MUTE”**.

We invite you to join us and become a Daughter Of The King. At the parish gathering on Sunday April 30th at 3:30 on the waterside lawn of the rectory, we will be there to answer any questions.

Heather Pusey
Midge Menzies, President



OXFORD DAY HOLY TRINITY PLANT SALE

Spring is here.....*please* plan on buying your flowers and garden plants at the Holy Trinity Plant Sale on Oxford Day

April 22, 2023

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Lots of helpers are needed for the Plant Sale. Please contact Beverly Rohman at beverlyrohman@gmail.com or 410-829-9561

All proceeds go to support Local Missions!

Food Pantry News

Your generous donations, that keep our shopping cart full, have been received like loaves and fishes. Neighborhood Service Center feeds many people in different programs, and with different needs. Your additions are always welcomed.

The Blessing Box, next to the YMCA., is a large cabinet on a post. People may donate, and people may take what they need. You are helping to keep the Blessing Box a Blessing, by filling in the empty spaces. Remember that many of the Hungry do not have cars...

The Backpack Project, to which you generously contribute during the month that it is our Mission Project, has lean days - We are asking for individual portions, and snacks, protein bars, and, Honestly the most treasured meal is a cup of Romaine Noodles!!! The student backpack food contributions are most valuable when they are silent in their back pack; it is not cool to have mysterious noises and weight in your backpack. Packets of Tuna, Chicken...mix your own salad, and crackers, etc. And for the students, homeless, and Families their #1 choice of food are RAHMMAIN NOODLES!!!

The gratitude and amazement our friends have expressed to me, for the food, is expressed by a smile and a glow ; that allows them to exhale fear and insecurity. Hungry people never smile until they are safe. We are giving heartfelt smiles, which, as Barbara says...use words only as necessary.

Thank you for keeping Our Shopping Cart full.

Heather Pusey

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. The items most needed are:

Cereal	Diapers	Jelly
Powdered milk	Tuna	Cough drops
Toilet paper	Crackers	Pedialyte
Spaghetti and sauce	Peanut Butter	Breakfast bars
Little packs of pop tarts, cookies, cheese crackers & peanut butter crackers, chips		
Health & personal-shampoo, toothpaste, women's hygiene supplies, lotion, bath washing gel, aspirin, cough syrup, band aids		

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

Empty Bowls Program Update

"Hello, Please pass along our sincere thanks to everyone that supported Empty Bowls. We are excited to share that we raised over \$20,000 (which will likely be more once we have all our final numbers come in) and this is on top of the \$7,000 we distributed last November. All of these funds will be donated to local food pantries to fight hunger in Talbot County. We couldn't have done this without people like your congregation who came together to make a difference.

*Thank you.
Amy Jacobs*

Educational Section



Holy Trinity will once again hold its annual Easter egg hunt after the 10:00 service on Easter morning, April 9th. Loretta

Blume and her crew of bunnies have been planning this for the children. If we know there will be little ones under age two, we will have a special place for their eggs. Children should bring their Easter baskets to collect their eggs. This is a fun time held in the rectory yard. Looking forward to seeing you!

Easter Bunny Helpers Needed

After the 9:30 service on April 2, please join us in the parish hall for refreshments and fellowship and to help fill Easter eggs. We have 200 plastic eggs to fill with candy for the Easter egg hunt! The Easter egg hunt will take place on the rectory lawn after the 10:00 Easter service. If you can spend a few minutes and help fill the eggs, we would appreciate it.

We could also use help cutting out the rest of the fleece hearts to send heart hug prayers. If you have your own scissors, that would be helpful, but not necessary. The Sunday School children thank you!



Field Trip to The Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center.

Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 10:30 am

The Chesapeake Multicultural Center is celebrating its 10th anniversary in April. In recognition of this achievement the Center is hosting an exhibit at the Waterfowl Festival Building from April 20-22. Holy Trinity is sponsoring a field trip to the exhibit on the opening day, Thursday April 20th at 10:30 am. The exhibit will tell the stories of 6 families who have benefited from the numerous services offered by the center. The Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center (ChesMRC) empowers people from different cultures to become successful and engaged members of our community. While the organization serves anyone who requests assistance, our primary focus is to help Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals to successfully integrate into the community. Holy Trinity has supported the Center through donations by the ECW and the Trivia night fundraiser. Also, several of our parishioners are regular volunteers at the center and serve on its board. This field trip will be a fascinating and fun time for the parish to show its support of this invaluable community resource. Please call the parish office at 410-226-5134 to rsvp. We will try to arrange carpooling for those attending.



Sunday School

The Sunday School Children Invite You!

Dear Parishioners, You have been so supportive of our Sunday school projects throughout the year. We would like to thank you by providing refreshments after the 10 o'clock service on April 23, which is our last Sunday school class for this year. In addition to the refreshments, we will also have our Lego projects displayed and a special project gift for each of you. Also on April 23, the children will be deciding how to spend the funds raised during the Lenten project Change for Change. The last day we are collecting for the project is Easter Sunday. Thank you for all your support and we hope you can join us on April 23.

Barbara Cross, Kathy Becker, Pucky Lippincott, Linda Wilson, and the Sunday School Children



Music Notes

April Musicians

Easter Sunday 4/9 8 a.m. Dave Hasek, Organ , Melissa Wise, Soprano, Cora Bruner, Piano

10 :00 a.m. Dave Hasek, Organ, Melissa Wise, Soprano, Cora Bruner, Piano, Warren Prender, Trumpet

4/16 10 a.m. service Denise Nathanson, Cello and Ashley Watkins, Flute

Holy Trinity Choir

We plan to gather together to sing this Spring. If you would like to join us, please let Cora know and we will be in contact shortly.

April 23 Concert -

Women in Concert

*A Celebration of Music Written and
Performed By Women
Sunday, April 23, 2023 4 p.m.*



Ashley Watkins, Flutist

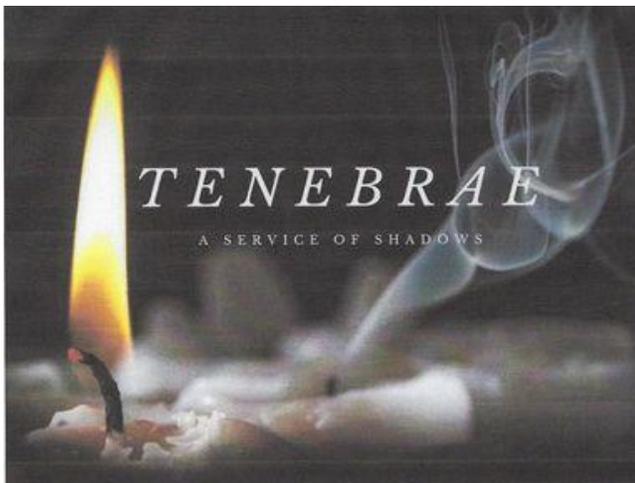
Ashley will be joined by Denise Nathanson, Cello, Sally Montgomery, Flute, and Amy Morgan, Piano.

A freewill offering will be taken for artist expenses.

This concert is in partial fulfillment for the Artist Diploma, O Academy.

*The Church of the Holy Trinity
502 S. Morris St.
Oxford, Maryland*

For further information call 410-226-5134



*Join us for our Good Friday Service at noon
on April 7th*

Oxford United Methodist Church

101 N. Morris St.

Oxford MD

Sponsored by Oxford UMC, Waters UMC

And

Church of the Holy Trinity

Maundy Thursday Supper & Service



Thursday, April 6th, 5:30 pm

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper. This Maundy Thursday, April 6th, we will resume our tradition of observing Maundy Thursday with a shared supper and service. The evening will begin in the parish hall at 5:30 pm. We will share a simple supper. We request that when you call or sign up to rsvp you volunteer to bring one of the following food items:

Humus – Cheese - Crackers, Bread, Olives, Apricots, Dates or other Fruit

During the supper we will share reflections of each of the apostles. After of the meal, we will conduct a hand washing ritual and process to the church for a simple Eucharist celebration to be followed by a stripping of the altar. This evening is one of the most moving and memorable rituals of our church. We hope you will join us. To rsvp you may call the office at 410-226-5134.



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The Church of the Holy Trinity



Lifeline



April

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