



Lifeline

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The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church
office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org



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



Hat Sunday



George's 100 Birthday



Chris & Kathy Enjoying Ice Cream



Flower Girls for our Ser-



Barbara & Kevin at Diocese Retreat



Soupmeisters Hard At Work



Rainbow Graces Holy Trinity



After Service Fellowship



Anniversary Blessings



CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- **Thank you to all of our generous donors who contributed to the piano fund.** You have provided for the beauty of music to resound throughout our hall for years to come.
- **Thank you for our “New Victory Garden” gardeners** for sharing their fresh produce with those in need. This produce is distributed twice a month to those Lunch Bunch members in need of food supplies and to the Neighborhood Service Center.
- **Much appreciation to the mighty Holy Trinity Choir** for your beautiful music. You greatly enhance our worship services. **Also, much thanks to Cora** for her inspired music leadership.
- **Thank you for our Ushers, Acolytes, Readers, Altar guild, Flower guild and Vestry hosts** for all you do to make our services times of sacredness and hospitality.
- **Thank you to the Soup Meisters and Lunch Bunch delivery team.** You provide meals nourishing to the body and soul to so many in need in our community.
- **Thank you, Connie,** for being a juggler extraordinaire managing multiple tasks that keep our church running and for her very gracious and friendly presence.
- **Gratitude to our Vestry** for their inspired leadership.
- **And thank you and bless all of you.** You make this a blessed and welcoming community of God.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – Save the Date – September 10th at 10 am

No matter what year you are in school, if you have a backpack and would like it blessed, join us at the 10:00 service on September 10th when we will host a blessing of the backpacks. Our prayer is that everyone receiving a blessing will be blessed.

ICE CREAM SUNDAY CELEBRATION August 6 after our 9:30 am service



Please come to our annual Ice Cream Sunday, featuring the best ice cream from The Scottish Highland Creamery. Ice cream refreshment will be offered at the fellowship time following our 9:30 am outdoor service on Sunday August 6th. Holy Trinity will offer spiritual nourishment for your soul and body on this morning

Connie's Corner



"The first to apologize is the bravest. The first to forgive is the strongest. The first to forget is the happiest."
—Unknown

Night Prayer

Ever creating God

As our friend the Sun releases it should on the day,
It moves on to illuminate brothers and sisters elsewhere in this beautiful world.

Sister moon arises as darkness calms the city, forest, and sea.

Your creatures emerge,
Deer step forth from the forest,
Owls winging through the night sky,
Tree frogs beginning their joyful chorus,
And fish frolic in the waters.

We thank you for this good creation.

We welcome the Sabbath rest offered by the night.

And, as we drift off to other worlds in our dreams,
We rejoice in your goodness.

Amen.

Penned By Kevin Cross

In life, many storms may come and go

We ebb, we rise, we always go with the flow

Many will enter our lives who we hold dear

But God will always take the helm and steer

His love will fortify and sustain you

His love is unconditional and not for just a few

But for all who follows His way

And that love in your heart will always stay

His path is beautiful and strong

One that you know you will do no wrong

So open your arms, your mind and your heart

And from His love you will never part.

Written by Connie Greenhawk

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

Milestones

Baptism

Bryn Ann Taylor June 10, 2023

Marriage

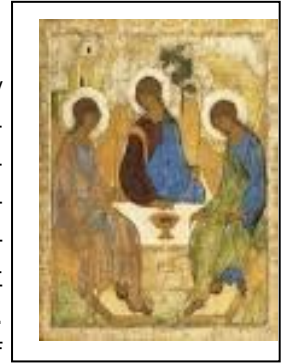
Kristin Elizabeth Treat & John Allan Easum June 17, 2023

Passed on

Patricia Ann Potter July 4, 2023

It's All About Community

The past several weeks we have moved through the Scriptures describing Pentecost, Trinity Sunday and several weeks of what life is to be like if the world lived into God's dream. A central theme to all these passages is that of relationships. A dynamic relationship is a foundational element of God's nature. The Christian understanding of God is monotheistic but expressed in the terms of an ever-moving, dynamic relationship. It can be hard to grasp the concept of The Three in one. Andrei Rublev illuminated an icon of a trinity to make this concept more readily accessible and to illustrate the centrality of relationships to life in God's kingdom. This icon (see right) shows three angels forming a triad sitting around a table. In the center of the round table is a cup. One angel has a hand raised, blessing the cup that is to be shared. This icon is based on a story from Genesis, often referred to as *Abraham and Sarah's Hospitality*. It describes that one day, Abraham saw three men, actually angels, standing in front of his tent. In response to their visit, he asked Sarah to prepare them a meal. It was at this meal that one of the angels foretold that Sarah would soon give birth to a son. This event shows that relationship and the hospitality that supports it, leads to life.



In this time when discord is being acted out around the world, it is healing to be reminded of the importance of hospitality and relationship to the health of society. In this world, in the country, and even in this town we have too readily forgotten to put in the good work of welcome, acceptance, and good hospitality to maintain and build our relationships.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Reconciliation Leadership Team has been reaching out across the world with a message of tempering conflicted differences through a practice of reconciliation. Reconciliation is at the heart of the Gospel. Reconciliation heals relationships and promotes the growth of community.

A key element to the work of reconciliation is to take risks and dare to cross divides. It requires one to listen to and appreciate the perspective of the other. In other words, to make the effort to "stand in another's shoes." Easily said but it is a challenge to put into practice. It requires courage and a mindset to want to understand and listen to the other. Difficult yes, but it is the only way forward to begin the work of rebuilding community.

I spoke in my sermon on July 2nd of the Zulu people's custom to greet each other with "Sawubona" Literally meaning "I see you" "I see you. I appreciate you; I wish to understand you." This greeting acknowledges the worth of the other and readiness to offer hospitality to another, regardless of any differences.

Another African people, the Shona greet one another with "Marara sei?" **How did you sleep?** The response is "Ndakarara zvakana kana wakarara zvakana." **I slept well if you slept well.**

We can learn from these people how to live well in communion with each other. *We are who we are* in relationships. We are commissioned by God to live in harmony with one another. Let us have the will to recognize the value of relationships. Let us learn from the Trinity that we are created to live well with each other. Let us be a hospitable, loving people. This is what church is all about. Living out hospitality, friendship and love in community. It is all about community.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Multicultural Visit

On Thursday, April 20th, several members of Holy Trinity visited the 10th Anniversary Exhibit of the **Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center**. Led by ChesMRC board members **Curt Reintsma** and **Bob Kelly**, the group met with Board Chair Harvey Zandt and Executive Director Matt Peters who shared his story of service to ChesMRC while touring us through the exhibit. The exhibit was arranged by 10 large, double-sided panels, Each holding the story of one of 10 families ChesMRC has supported, out of the 6,000 they have served over the past 10 years. Each of the 10 displays featured a magnificent life size family portrait and their story



along with an overview of the country of their origin. In addition to their offices in Easton, ChesMRC recently added a branch office in Federalsburg to serve the growing Haitian population. If you would learn more about CHesMRC and how Holy Trinity supports this non-profit organization, please contact Curt Reintsma or Bob Kelly.



The New Victory Garden

Help us feed the hungry in Talbot County. Our Lunch Bunch program delivers a delicious and nourishing meal to residents of Oxford and Trappe twice a month. Our recipients include a wide variety of people; the ill, the bereaved, and those who need a good meal. Once a month we also deliver dry goods and fresh fruits and vegetables to those lunch bunch recipients who need basic food necessities. This part of the program has been supplied by the Maryland Food Bank. However, because the Covid relief programs ended, the Maryland Food Bank can no longer provide fresh produce. We would like to continue to provide vegetables and fruit to those in need. This is where you come in. We know we have many avid gardeners and like most gardeners probably produce more than you can consume. We invite you to share your bounty through the Lunch Bunch Program. This summer any extra vegetables that your garden produces can be a welcome addition to our food delivery. Produce grown in your garden or purchased from a stand can be **delivered to the church on Tuesday, August 8, and Tuesday, August 22.** Any excess will be shared with the Neighborhood Service Center. **Note: Please do not bring overripe produce or leave produce before or after these days, as we do not want to start a summer camp for fruit flies!** Plant an extra tomato plant or double up on that row of corn. Plan your garden so those in need can enjoy delicious home-grown treats. Good practices of creation care can ensure that we defeat hunger. We shall never surrender!

Mission – Rector’s Discretionary Fund

Did you know that the cash contributions to the plate on the first Sunday of the month go toward funding the Rector Discretionary Fund? This fund is separate from the church mission fund and is intended to help individuals with emergency needs. These needs can range from providing rental assistance, food, transportation, and medical expenses. Your support of this fund is greatly appreciated. It helps us spread the good news to those in need. Thank you for your support.

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



CREATION CARE

Do you like to garden? Do you enjoy spending time in nature? Are you concerned about the climate crisis? As part of our Christian commitment, we at Holy Trinity are forming a Creation Care Group. This group will bring together those of you with a wide variety of interests whether it is caring for our beautiful grounds, evaluating how we can be positive contributors to address the climate crisis, or exploring how nature feeds our soul through God's good creation. It has been said that creation is the first book of scripture. We can deepen our spiritual lives and through the love of nature and help this world resemble a bit of God's dream for heaven on earth. If you are interested in participating in any aspect of this initiative, please call the parish office at 410-226-5134 or speak to Lisa or Kevin.



Communications Volunteers Needed

Calling all communicators – that is you!

"Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your works and glorify your Faith who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16-

We are seeking to improve our communication capabilities in all forms: our website, our social media presence, in newspaper articles... to carry the good news of Holy Trinity forth into our surrounding communities. If you have an interest in joining a volunteer team to help expand our reach and effectiveness, we would love to hear from you. We have much good news to share and need your help to do so. Please speak with Fr. Kevin, Deacon Lisa, or call the office at 410-226-5134



Women of Holy Trinity – Reimagining our Future, Fellowship, & Catered Luncheon!

Monday, September 18, 2023 – 10:30 AM – Parish Hall

ALL Women of Holy Trinity! You are invited to attend an informational luncheon and updated plans for continued fellowship and local fundraising among fellow women of the church! Twenty-five women participated in some very productive informational exchanges on July 16th and 23rd. With that valuable input, we are excited to share the updated plans for the **"Women of Holy Trinity,"** the **NEW NAME** that welcomes ALL women interested in being involved in fellowship and local fundraising efforts that extend the reach of our church ministry.

An invitation to ALL women on our church mailing list will be sent in mid-August, providing the event details, but in the meantime, please mark your calendars! **If anyone's name needs to be added to our mailing list, please contact the church office at 410-226-5134. Hope to see you there!**

Educational Section

The Church of the Holy Trinity Survey

The Church of the Holy Trinity, an Episcopal Parish: a caring Christian community dedicated to growing in God's love through worship, study, service and fellowship. **We invite you to join us whatever way you are comfortable. If you would like to become more involved, please check off your area of interest and return this form to the Church office.**

Worship					
__	Altar Guild	__	Flower Guild	__	Eucharistic Minister
__	Usher	__	Acolyte	__	Choir
__	Reader	__	Sunday School	__	
Fellowship					
__ Coffee hour refreshments			__ Special Events		
__ Episcopal Church Women			__ Concert Events		
Christian Formation					
__ Youth Group		__ Men's Bible Study		__ Daughters of the King	
__ Women on a Journey		__ Women's Bible Study		__ Other Studies	
Program Groups					
__ Pastoral Care		__ Buildings & Grounds		__ Prayer Shawl	
__ Mission & Outreach		__ Event Set Up		__ Weekly Bulletin Folding	
__ Finance Committee		__ Audit Committee		__ Creation Care	
__ Communications		__ Vestry		__ Web	
__ Lunch Bunch - weekly preparation and distribution of lunches				__ Photography	
Other					
Is there an activity/program you like to see at The Church of the Holy Trinity?					
What skills, talents, and interests do you have that you would like to share with Holy Trinity?					
What are you currently involved in?					
Thank you for your interest. Please complete the form below as you would like it to appear in the church directory.					
Name(s):					
Mailing Address:					
Street Address:					
City/Town		Zip			
Phone:		Email:			

Music

Music Notes

Choir: July 16th is the final Sunday the Choir will gather to sing for services until September. Thank you for adding joy and beautiful music to our services. We will gather together again in September for a fall session. Please come and join us!

Musician Schedule for July and August:

July 30th 10 a.m. The Delmarva Trio

August 13th 8 and 10 a.m. services
Melissa Wise

August 27th Martha Britt, Substitute



PIANO FUND

Congratulations and many thanks to all who have contributed more than \$48,000 of the \$60,000 required to purchase the new Steinway Design Boston 7-Foot Grand Piano. Our 1968 Yamaha Grand Piano suffered damage from extreme fluctuations of temperature and humidity experienced in the Parish Hall two years ago. These fluctuations, combined with its age, have transformed our piano into a “residential” piano, not one that can handle the playing of a professional pianist. Recent installation of upgrades to our HVAC system should assure that the climate in the Parish Hall will be controlled and that fluctuations which we previously experienced will not recur. Our new piano should be safe and comfortable in its new environment.

The Vestry has authorized the Contract for the purchase to be signed and the deposit mailed to Steinway. Our challenge in the weeks ahead is to raise the balance of the funds needed to pay the entire purchase price, without having to use any capital reserves.

We are blessed indeed to have the extraordinary talent of Dr. Cora Bruner, not only as a musician, but also possessing the indomitable ability to entice world-class musicians to share their talents with our parish and village. I know that, with your support, our music program will continue to entertain all our parish and the many friends and neighbors who might never come to experience the warmth and love of our parish, if it were not for initially being attracted to attend a recital or concert.

Thank you.

Gordon

The Piano Man



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The Church of the Holy Trinity



Lifeline



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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