



# Lifeline

VOLUME 17  
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Summer 2024

*The Church of the Holy Trinity*

*An Episcopal Church*

*office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org*



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



**190 Back Packs Donated by Holy Trinity**



**Care Pack Donations**



**Our Care Pack Delivery Angels**



**Susie  
Devlin**

**Angel  
Delivery**



**Pam  
Seale  
Model-  
ing Back  
Pack**



**Celebrat-  
ing Our  
Beloved  
Sally  
Fronk**

**Fireworks  
From The  
Ferry**



**Where Is  
RevKev  
on Sab-  
batical**



**RevKev & Barb Enjoying The Good**





## CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Thank you to everyone who donated food and/or delivered the food and back packs to the Talbot Care Pack Program. Your generosity is helping the children of this county with nutritious food and love.
- A special note of thanks to our **Vestry** who keep us shipshape and on course spreading the love of Jesus near and far.
- Great appreciation to our **Mission team** for putting out words of faith, love, and mercy into action.
- Thank you to **Connie** for being such a welcoming presence to our community.
- Thank you to **Martha Callahan, Art Dent, and Will Johnson** for volunteering to conduct our 2023 audit.
- Much appreciation to everyone who has helped host our Fellowship hours and special thanks for **Margot McConnel** for coordinating these wonderful gatherings.
- Thank you to **Michelle and Cameron Mactavish** for trimming the hall hedges. You keep us looking good.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

## Milestones

### Passed On

Sally Fronk, 7/3/24

Bill Pugh, 7/6/24

Bernie Witter, 6/26/24

## Dinner Church – Wednesday July 31 at 5:30 pm

We are continuing our new series of bimonthly potluck dinners that started in May. These dinners have all the epicurean and fellowship delights of a typical potluck dinner combined with a church service. Our second Dinner Church is scheduled for Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm. The dinner will include an evening prayer service. This evening, our worship service will be the Compline Service from The Book of Common Prayer. It will be preceded by a brief tour of the BCP, a resource for faith and prayer. The potluck theme is Good Ole Summertime. Let your imaginations run wild and let's share each other's gastronomic vision of Summer. A sign-up list is posted in the Parish hall or you may call the office to RSVP.

## Connie's Corner



Prayer - the world's greatest wireless connection. On T-shirt given to Father Kevin by the **Delmarva Trio**.

"Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself."— **George Bernard Shaw**

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you." – **Walt Whitman**

"You are who you are meant to be. Dance as if no one's watching. Love as if it's all you know. Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today." **James Dean**

"The most important thing in life is to stop saying 'I wish' and start saying 'I will'. Consider nothing impossible then treat possibilities as probabilities." -**Charles Dickens**

"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence."— **Vince Lombardi**

"Inspiration comes from within yourself. One has to be positive. When you're positive, good things happen." – **Deep Roy**

"Today's accomplishments were yesterday's impossibilities." – **Robert H. Schuller**

The skies so blue with clouds so white  
Makes everything always alright  
Waters so still, so deep

They could make you weep  
But I choose to always smile  
Forging ahead, going the extra mile  
To always protect my heart  
From all that tries to tear it apart  
But I can't help but wonder why'  
There is something so special about a blue sky  
So no matter what comes my way  
It will be a beautiful blue sky day.

"Written by Connie Greenhawk

If you would like to submit a favorite saying or thought, email to Connie at [office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org](mailto:office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org)

## Mission News

Our mission team has been very busy making sure our words of faith are enacted in gifts of our faith. This ministry performs acts of mercy, love and compassion through actions and funding of others who carry forth the good work of mercy locally, nationally and internationally. Here are a few updates on recent activity.

### Local

With the full involvement of the entire parish, we conducted a drive to help provide food to the school children in need throughout Talbot County. The **Talbot Care Packs** program has been a key focus of Holy Trinity's mission work for many years. During the summer many children who come from families in need receive lunch through the summer school programs during the week. Talbot Care Packs ensures that each child goes home on Fridays with a care pack filled with enough food to get them through the weekends. During June we collected a large amount of food donations and we also purchased 190 new backpacks for the recipients.

We also continue through your donations to help supply the **food panties** in Easton. On an individual basis we helped a mother and her two young children move from living in a car to regular accommodation and we provide individual food and housing assistance to many. This is through the Rector's Discretionary fund. This fund is supplied by private donations and the loose plate collections on the first Sunday of the month. If you are able, consider bringing a few extra dollars for plate collection or a check with discretionary fund in the memo line.

As you all know this summer is off to a very hot and humid season. Once again this summer we have been able to provide pool passes to the families at the **Interfaith Shelter**

Several of our parishioners have volunteered to work with the **Bay Hundred Community Volunteers** to provide ramps to individuals in need through Talbot County.

### International

This year we have continued our partnership with **Save the Children** to provide on the ground medical, food and emergency care to the people of the Ukraine. We also helped fund emergency food relief to the people of Gaza through funding provided to **World Central Kitchen**. In June we also identified a medical relief organization in Haiti, **Konbit Sante**. This organization has been working in Haiti for 25 years providing medical care in hospitals and community health clinics.

These are just a few of the many mission activities that this community supports. You are generous people who put your faith not only into words but to action.

## ICE CREAM SUNDAY CELEBRATION

August 4 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 and refreshments will be offered at the fellowship time following our 9:30 service on Sunday August 4th. Holy Trinity will offer spiritual nourishment for your soul and body on this morning.

## MISSION SECTION



### FLOWER GUILD

#### Growing

The Holy Trinity Flower Guild is their mission and seeking new members. They are growing in two important ways!

The Flower Guild takes care of providing flower arrangements for the altar for Sunday services, decorating church for Christmas, Easter and other special services, and overseeing the delivery of flowers to the ill in the parish, We can always involve new members in this artful activity.

We have the space to grow our own garden and would like to create a **Holy Trinity Garden** to grow our own flowers. If you would like to help with planning and caring for a garden that displays God's beauty, this is the group for you!

If you are interested in joining, please call the church office at 410-226-5134 or you may speak directly to Ingrid Blanton.



### The Church of the Holy Trinity Flower Donations

Each Sunday our beautiful church is enhanced through the dedication of flowers by our members. The Flower arrangements are displayed on each side of the tabernacle. Flowers arrangements can be dedicated in memoriam, to celebrate births, birthdays, anniversaries, and other sacred occasions.

If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday, please call the parish office at 410-226-5134. The cost per arrangement is \$70.00 Please help us enhance the beauty of our services.

### WOMEN ON A JOURNEY

Women on a Journey will be taking a break for the summer, resuming this fall.

### Inquiring Believers

Inquiring Believers will be taking a break for the summer, resuming this fall

### Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will be taking a break for the summer, resuming this fall

### Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King, a worldwide order of women dedicated to prayer and service, will meet in the Parish Hall at 9:30 on Tuesday August 13<sup>th</sup>. All are welcomed to attend.



### Prayer Requests

It seems we can all use prayers at some point in our lives. Some people are fine about others knowing they are being prayed for, and sometimes people want to be prayed for quietly and in confidence.

Here at Holy Trinity, our Holy Comforter chapter of the Daughters of the King prays daily and keeps those requests confidential. We do not need to know what it is about - God knows. If you would like us to pray for you or someone else, please contact either Midge Menzies, Barb Cross, or Sharon Paz.

## MISSION SECTION



The Diocese of Easton Presents:  
 Philadelphia Eleven Screening & Discussion  
 Sunday, July 28th at 4:00pm  
 Easton Premier Cinemas  
 210 Marlboro Ave, Easton MD  
[www.dioceseofeaston.org/philadelphiaeleven](http://www.dioceseofeaston.org/philadelphiaeleven)



### Philadelphia Eleven

**Fifty Years Ago...** On July 29, 1974, eleven women were ordained as priests in Philadelphia, in violation of the constitution and canons of The Episcopal Church at that time. These first female priests in The Episcopal Church were harassed, lost friends, and banned from stepping on church property. [The Philadelphia Eleven documentary](#), released this year in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of their ordinations, showcases their courage to effect change and build a movement that is still transforming the Church today. The Diocese of Easton is offering an opportunity to view and discuss this important film.

**Thirty-Five Years Ago...** on June 3, 1989 the Rev. Marianne Ell become the first woman ordained in the Diocese of Easton – to the Diaconate at Trinity Cathedral and on January 6, 1990 to the Priesthood at Christ Church Easton. You can read more about Marianne Ell's journey in [this article](#) published on the 30th anniversary of her ordination. We are excited to have Rev. Marianne Ell facilitate a 30-minute discussion after the Philadelphia Eleven Screening. We hope you can all join us on Sunday, July 28th, at 4:00pm at Easton Premier Cinemas in Easton, MD

**You Must Purchase Tickets in Advance** by July 14th by clicking the link below. Tickets are \$6.00. Movie will be at 4:00pm on July 28th at Easton Premier Cinemas, 210 Marlboro Ave, Easton MD - followed immediately by the 30 minute discussion, also held in the theater. Tickets may be purchased from the Diocesan Office; 410-226-5134 or by clicking on this link:

<https://onrealm.org/dioceseofeaston/PublicRegistrations/Event?>

**Buy Your Tickets Today**

*"Don't assume there's no prejudice about women. Don't assume just because you're very smart and have a good education that will pave the way. There will be a lot of bumps along the way. But don't give up, stay faithful, show up and remember it's not your ministry, it's Christ's." - Nancy Wittig*



## Sean W. Rowe Elected as 28th Presiding Bishop

Promising change and reorganization, Bishop Sean W. Rowe of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York was elected the 28th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church by the House of Bishops on the first ballot.

“Let us be courageous. Let us follow Jesus into this unknown future,” he said.

After the overwhelming confirmation by the House of Deputies, raucous applause greeted Rowe as he was introduced. “I’m grateful to all of you who have participated in this long discernment process,” he said. “I thank Julia Ayala Harris and the House of Deputies for the confirmation. I am most grateful to [other nominees] DeDe, Scott, Daniel, and Rob for their companionship and counsel along the way.”

His address was peppered with acclamation and cheers.

“Our ministry together in the next nine years comes at a critical time,” he said, claiming we are facing an “existential crisis. The world around us has changed; it continues to change. God is calling us deeply into the unknown.

“I’m from the Rust Belt,” he said. “I’ve been around to see things that I loved go away.” But, he said, “People in our region are resilient.” He has experienced

this attitude with the junctured Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York dioceses “in what we call an experiment in the name of the gospel.”

“We need to bring this Episcopal Church into the future which God is calling us,” he said. “We cannot continue to be the Episcopal Church in the same way.”

Rowe called for reorienting staff, directing budgets to support dioceses and local ministries, and reforming the church’s structure and governance. “We need to support and embrace innovative works.”

“The world needs us to address this more strategically and more effectively.”

“Reorienting our structures, our budgets, and our relationships will only matter if we do it for the sake of the gospel, for the sake of Jesus Christ,” he said.

“I ask you to think of this time as a relational jubilee. Let go of the anger and grudges that have weakened our church leadership.”

He admitted that there is much work to address “before we leave Louisville. Let us be courageous. Let us follow Jesus into this unknown future.”

Rowe continued these themes in a press conference that followed. “We are at a pivot point in this country and around the world — structures, governance, budgets, strategies.”

In nine years, which will mark the end of his term, Rowe thinks the church will be “leaner in structure and budget,” and more strategic in evangelism and racial reconciliation.

While this work has started, “We need to do more, which will require us to go more deeply.”

In an anxious world, “God’s got this,” he said. “Love is the way. We trust in Jesus Christ and that’s where it is — that’s where our peace is, that’s where the hope is.”

He believes there is a lot to learn from overseas dioceses. “Many of our dioceses outside the church in the continental 48 have a lot to teach us. The reality is, what we are facing has been faced long before by them. We have a lot to learn. They have a lot to teach us about how to be in the world.”

Pointing out that he and Ayala Harris are both in their 40s, he promised to listen to everyone. “We need a broad range of ages in appointments, and in the voices that we ask to speak.”

Rowe, 49, has been bishop since 2007 of Northwestern Pennsylvania and bishop provisional for Western New York since 2019. He was bishop provisional for Bethlehem from 2014 to 2018. He holds degrees from Grove City College, Virginia Theological Seminary, and Gannon University. He was ordained in 2000. He is the parliamentarian of the House of Bishops.

Rowe is married to Carly, a Christian educator, and they have one daughter.

**Superb Concert Organist to Play at the  
Church of the Holy Trinity  
Sunday, August 4, 2024  
4:00 p.m.**



A much-loved, highly sought after concert organist is returning to Oxford for a wonderful afternoon of classics, including familiar pieces we all know and love. Monte Maxwell is the Chapel Organist, Director of Chapel Music, and the Midshipmen Symphony Orchestra with the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis. Admission is free and a freewill donation will be collected.

**Church of the Holy Trinity · 502 S. Morris St. · Oxford, MD · 410-226-5134**

### Financial Update

The financial condition of Holy Trinity Church is excellent. Year-to-date through May the surplus (revenue less expenses) is \$35.4 thousand which is \$40.7 thousand over budget. This is due mainly to pledge income exceeding the budget by \$34.1 thousand (\$196.3 actual versus \$162.2 budget). Some of this is attributable to members who prepay the entire year in January and February as well as an increase in the membership of Holy Trinity. Thanks for your strong financial commitment. We have three endowment funds with a total value of \$2.364 million. The endowment funds have increased in value of by \$137.5 as of end of May. A disbursement of \$28,000 was made from the special mission endowment fund to assist with the extraordinary medical expenses for a local child. On a side note, please remember that in addition to using your envelopes to meet your annual pledge, you can also make an automatic payment using a credit card. Get in touch with Connie at the office if you are interested in this option.

Dick Deerin, Treasurer

### Senior Warden Message

On behalf of the Holy Trinity Vestry, I would like to share with you some thoughts about our activities and actions this past year. I would like to acknowledge the new members of the Holy Trinity Vestry - Martha Callahan, Tom DeMarco, and Susan Grauel - for sharing their various areas of expertise in addressing the work of the Vestry.

In addition, I'd like to recognize and thank Dick Deerin for assuming the role of treasurer. His willingness to collaborate with David Wangsness has resulted in a seamless transition to serving as treasurer.

I am very happy to report that the overall health of Holy Trinity is excellent. We have exceeded our financial goals in virtually all areas as we continue to manage our resources and finances. Our mission work is very active and remains strong, as we continue to ensure an effective organization. Our Building and Grounds team, led by Bill Ritchie and Michelle Mactavish, continue the never ending job of maintaining and improving the grounds and our beautiful Church.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the Women of Holy Trinity for organizing and sponsoring the annual Oxford Day Plant Sale this spring.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the loyal support of our parishioners, the conscientious dedication of Connie Greenhawk, and the strong vision and gentle leadership of Father Kevin.

The Vestry of Holy Trinity continues to serve and support the church's mission by our actions and deeds as we look forward to the next year.

Thank you,  
John Dillon



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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-**