



Lifeline

VOLUME 18
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April 2025

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church

office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org



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



Wendy Palmer
Presentation on
Brain Health



Shrove Tuesday Pancake
Supper



Sunday School



Donation for Middle School
Food Closet



The US Naval Academy At
Holy Trinity

And Dinner at the TAYC





CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- We have a new church brochure! Thank you for **Margaret Munsch, Trish Malin and Leslie Kelly** for creating such a welcoming message.
- Thank you to **Connie** for everything she does each day to make our church such a welcoming place. Her care comes through every encounter with new and current members, and she keeps us looking good with her work on our bulletins, Lifeline and accounts receivable. We also thank her for her monthly words of encouragement and lovely poems in our Lifeline.
- We thank **Cora, the Holy Trinity Choir and guest musician** for the inspiration and beauty of their music.
- Thank you to our **Organ Committee, Art Zimmer, Cora Buner, Margo McConnell, Mike McConnell, John Dillon and Bill Ritchie** who are working diligently to assess, research and develop recommendations for our organ project.
- Much appreciation for our **Sunday School Teachers Barbara Cross and Veronica Wainwright, our children, and parents**. You inspire us as you teach the word of God and show the way. Their Change for Change project is transforming the world.
- Thank you to our acolytes, altar guild, flower guild, ushers, and readers.
- Thank you to **Trish Malin and Karen Walbridge** who have been working on developing a new scheduling tool for worship support and other church activities.
- Finally Thank you to all of you. You are a blessing!

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Milestones

Passed On

Tony Gould

Connie's Corner



"When you give joy to other people, you get more joy in return. You should give a good thought to the happiness that you can give out." —**Eleanor Roosevelt**

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. The slogan 'Press On' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race." —**Calvin Coolidge**

"Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterward." —**Vernon Sanders Law**

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

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." —**Andrew Carnegie**

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

Are you inspired by the beauty of Spring
The joy robins and daffodils bring
The earth is warming up, giving birth to a new crop
Fed by an angel's single teardrop
Animals seen scurrying about
Happy to see the sun no doubt
Do you stop to thank God for this revelation
Because my friend, He is truly your salvation.

"Written by Connie Greenhawk

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

Easter Egg Hunt

After the 10:00 service on Easter Sunday, we will have our annual Easter egg hunt in the rectory waterside yard. We hope your children and grandchildren can join us! It's quick and fun!

In preparation, we need to fill the 200 plastic eggs with candy. After the 9:30 service on April 6, during fellowship time we will have the tables set up with the plastic eggs and candy. We need you to help fill them. Please join us. Many thanks to Susan Devlin for coordinating this.



See Back of
Calendar for Lent
Services

Radical Hospitality

“Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.”

This beautiful, prophetic line of Scripture is from The Letters to the Hebrews, one of the Epistles of our New Testament. Jesuit priest and scholar, The Rev. Daniel J. Harrington was considered one of the greatest scholars of the New Testament. I was blessed to have Dan as my professor for several of my courses in seminary. He was an avowed enthusiast of The Letter to the Hebrews. (*He was also a passionate Bruins and Red Sox fan, so our classes always made time for talking about the latest games!*) I clearly remember the class that discussed this text when Dan stated: this is “*the greatest Christian sermon ever preached or written.*” This statement made us all sit up and take notice that this class was going to be something different and very exciting. And it was.



While many of the Epistles were written by St. Paul it is highly doubtful that he wrote Hebrews. It shares little in common with Paul’s letters and is totally unlike his style of writing. Whoever its author may have been, Dan went on to call this author “*the patron saint of preachers.*” Raymond Brown, another New Testament scholar whose works we studied agreed with Dan and wrote “*By all standards this is one of the most impressive works in the New Testament.*”

While written as encouragement for the early community of Christians the truths revealed in this letter are absolutely timeless guides for what it means to be a Christian. The passage cited above follows an exhortation to “*let mutual love continue.*” Both lines reveal the nature of Christian life.



Our worship, our mission work, our social gatherings are places we can practice the Christian way of life. It is important for us to have such communal experiences to remind ourselves and others what the counter cultural life of a Christian should be like. We are strengthened at these times with each other so that when we encounter the world beyond our walls, we may be living examples of Christ. In her book, **Radical Welcome**, author Stephanie Spellers comments of the difficulty that even our communities have in living up to the values of a Christian. She raises the question “*Is worship for those who are present and empowered? Is it an intimate family affair where everyone knows the rules and all the rote response, and we hope marginalized people will stay because they would like access to this exclusive club? Or is worship an open and public gathering where we rejoice at the opportunity to welcome the strange as Christ?*” This question can/should be applied to all of our communal activities.

At our worship and other activities, you good people of Holy Trinity have demonstrated that you understand the principles of Christian hospitality. You have welcomed others into our services, shared laughter, stories, and food during times of fellowship and spread the love. Each time you show “the other” Christian love, you transform the world. For all of that I thank you and commend you.

You may indeed have entertained unknown angels. You may be an angel in disguise to the world. Bless you for showing them the face of Christ.



Blessings. Fr. Kevin



Inquiring Believers Study the New Testament

The Inquiring Believers Men's Bible Study is finishing up its study of the New Testament using the Great Courses video lecture series titled, *Understanding the New Testament*. Our professor for the course is Dr. David Brakke (Ph.D., M.Div.) of The Ohio State University. Soon up on our syllabus is Brakke's revealing lecture on The Revelation of John! As we have noted in the past, we typically read additional short pieces suggested by the members of the group to further our understanding of matters covered in the video lectures. After viewing/hearing the lectures, which last slightly over 30 minutes, we have 25 minutes or so of lively discussion. Our gatherings are marked by friendly social interaction and the sharing of ideas and opinions, and we often try to look at current events through the lens of a Believer. We expect to finish up our meetings for this semester sometime in May and head into summer recess.

The Inquiring Believers meet each Monday evening at 5:00 in the Parish Hall and we are happy to welcome new members. If you would like to join in, please contact Bob Kelly at kellyrf@lemoyne.edu or Dave Poe at davidrussellpoe@gmail.com



New QR Code for Donations

Holy Trinity has set up this QR code. You will see this on our bulletins and other publications. Scanning this QR code with your phone will take you to a donation page where you can use a credit or debit card to make a donation. We thank you for your generosity.



Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King, a worldwide order of women dedicated to prayer and service. Our next Daughters of the King Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025 at 10:00am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.



WOMAN ON A JOURNEY

We will be starting a new book this April –

Joy!: God's Secret Weapon for Every Believer by Georgian Banov

"Have you settled for less than unspeakable joy in your life's journey? The Holy Spirit is challenging you to expect more—a lot more! Joy is not some nice-to-have "bonus" of the Christian faith. With Jesus living inside you through the Spirit, you can experience the bliss of God's presence as you walk out your calling with purpose and power!"

Come join us as we start another book discussion that brings meaningful conversations and time for sharing personal insights and lessons learned. We are a group of women filled with faith and enthusiasm for our life journey with the Lord.

Meetings are typically the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month in the Parish Hall and via Zoom

However, in April will only meet on Wednesday, April 16th at 9:00 am

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

THE HOLY TRINITY CARD MINISTRY NEEDS MEMBERS

At one time or another, you may have received a "Get Well", a "Thinking of You", or a bereavement card from the Congregation of The Church of the Holy Trinity. This results from the caring, kind-hearted individuals of The Holy Trinity Card Ministry. Each member is responsible for one month of the year and the card writing process takes about an hour. That's only one hour to bring an often-needed kind word to your fellow parishioners!

Over the years, many of our members have moved away or have had to step away from this ministry for various reasons. This leaves us with seven people who are still active.

Do you enjoy sending greetings out to your friends and family? This ministry warms the hearts of its members. Would you consider becoming a member and taking a month? Please remember that when it's your month, you'll only need to spend about an hour writing out cards to our church members who are on the church prayer list (approximately 10-15 cards.)

Please contact Sharon Paz for further information: justsha33@gmail.com



Sunday School News

. April is the last month of Sunday School for this School year. On April 13, Palm Sunday, we will participate in the blessing of the palms and then parade across to the parish hall where we will discuss communion and how it relates to Holy Week. That will be the last Sunday that we will be collecting money for our “Change for Change” project. On April 27, our last Sunday, we will discuss and make decisions about what items to purchase to help others through Child Fund International. We thank you



parishioners for enabling the children this opportunity to help others.

Many thanks to the parents who have brought their children. There are so many choices of what to do on a Sunday morning. We appreciate their commitment to Sunday School. We also appreciate the teachers who volunteer their time. And of course, we thank the children. We love their enthusiasm and openness. Our church is blessed with their participation.

Barb Cross



The Sunday School children are once again “collecting change to make a change in the world.” During Lent, through Palm Sunday on April 13, there are “Change for Change” buckets at the back of the church and in the parish hall for you to leave your donation to this project. Checks can also be left there as well as mailed to the church, PO BOX 387, with Change for Change written in the memo.

We would love to have some sponsors for a pair of breeding goats which cost \$198. Thank you for your donations to this Lenten project. The Sunday School children are so thoughtful in their discussion about how to best spend the money raised. “Should we send mosquito nets or medicine?” “Would goats or pigs be better?”

If you have any questions, I would be happy to talk with you.

Barb Cross



Mission

Food Insecurity is rampant in Talbot County Let's Help Now and Work Toward a Solution

On Sunday did you rush out of the house without having had breakfast? You may have been a bit grumpy, a tad drowsy, and increasingly hungry during the service. Do you even remember the Gospel reading or the sermon?

Such is the daily plight of more than 300 elementary school children in Talbot County, according to Catherine Poe, a founder and dedicated volunteer of the local Food Bank. Those students are two thirds of the elementary school population here! They may now qualify to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch through U.S. Government programs, but those benefits may end or be drastically reduced in the coming year. Middle school and high school students do not have that boost. What do all these youngsters do to be active and stimulated during the school day or over the weekend?

Here's where we come in! You know that our Church of the Holy Trinity in Oxford has focused on feeding the students through several programs and we need more parishioners to join in to help. You have heard announcements requesting healthy, non-refrigerated staples such as peanut butter, portioned containers of applesauce or cut fruit, nuts, health bars and much more. Those foods may not be at the top of your weekend menu, but when filling a child's backpack on a Friday, they are treasured and life-saving. We supply those ingredients three times a year and may soon be asked to do more!

Do you know where the Talbot Food Banks get their food? From wherever they can! Often it is from donors like Holy Trinity. When you notice the red market basket in the parish hall sitting empty, make a note to check out your own pantry for wholesome food that you could drop into the basket that week.

The food banks do have small budgets to buy fresh and canned food at a discount from places like Teddy Bear Fresh. Holy Trinity helps buy fresh items once a month and delivered it. Guess who made that trip earlier in March? Our rector and his wife! Surely a few of us could have made that trip instead. Would you volunteer?

The story is dire. Catherine Poe said that many of the youngsters live with single mothers or grandparents on welfare or monthly Social Security checks who are doing the best they can.

The children of Talbot County need our help, our resources and our love! Yes, there are many thoughtful donors, just like those at Holy Trinity. We cannot carry the whole load, but we can always do more. Please make an effort to respond to the next request from the rector or mission committee. Those 300 "food insecure" children cannot adequately learn in school without our prayers and sincere help. Thank you!

Melissa Warfield



OXFORD DAY HOLY TRINITY PLANT SALE

HELPERS NEEDED!

It is a one-day event --- flower set up, sale, clean up --- and fun is had by all!

Saturday, April 26, 2025

Lots of helpers are needed!!

Please contact Carla Todd

carlantodd@gmail.com 443-983-3457

All proceeds go to support Local Missions!

Music News

Do you enjoy singing? Interested in making new friends? **The Holy Trinity Choir** is the place for you! We sing together the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month and rehearse Friday mornings at 10 a.m. If you can't make rehearsals, we'd love to have you join us Sunday mornings a bit early to go over our anthems. Everyone is welcome!

VOICES OF HOPE – LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUP

Our Lenten program this year is all about hope. In these troubled times hope can seem elusive. However, even in such difficult days hope can be found and transform our lives. We will study the state of hope and look to situations and people who have shown a pathway to a hope-filled life. Our faith is fundamentally one of hope. God tells us repeatedly “Do not be afraid.” Let us take a journey together heeding God’s call to live lives of hope and joy.



What is hope? Is it a wish or a dream or is it something more substantive that can be achieved by any of us? We explore this concept and seek out pathways toward hope through shared readings, presentations, and discussions.

In this series you will learn about

- a man who found hope through breaking boundaries and reaching out to another in desperate need

- a bishop and his daughter who found their blessedness in the eyes of God

- a priest who has transformed lives with a gang intervention program

- a young girl traumatized by a violent attack who went on to challenge her world

- a survivor of a Nazi concentration camp who found the courage to embrace life

- a woman of our times who with wit and wisdom shows that when we feel “doomed, stunned, exhausted and over caffeinate—the seeds of rejuvenation are at hand.”

We will meet for five Wednesdays at 5:30 pm final sessions on Wednesday April 2nd and 9th. This series will be offered on a hybrid basis – in-person and via Zoom. Deacon Lisa will co-lead this group, and we will embark on this journey together with the good people of Emmanuel Church Chestertown. Please call the parish office to RSVP.



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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